

PRESS RELEASE

MANIERA. PONTORMO, BRONZINO AND MEDICI FLORENCE

24 FEBRUARY TO 5 JUNE 2016

Press preview: Tuesday, 23 February 2016, 11 am

Frankfurt, 15 December 2015. The Städel Museum will usher in the coming exhibition year with a high-calibre show: starting on 24 February 2016, the Frankfurt museum will present “Maniera. Pontormo, Bronzino and Medici Florence”. With the aid of some 120 prominent loans, the exhibition will acquaint the German public with a key chapter in the history of Italian art – Florentine Mannerism – in all its diversity for the first time. Works by Jacopo Pontormo, Agnolo Bronzino, Andrea del Sarto, Rosso Fiorentino, Giorgio Vasari and others will be on view. Chronologically and topographically, the show will pick up where the successful Städel exhibition “Botticelli. Likeness, Myth, Devotion” of 2009/10 left off. Advance ticket sales have already begun. Flexible “Early-Bird-Tickets”, redeemable at the holder’s convenience, can be booked online at a preferential price of 10 EUR starting immediately.

The exhibition is being realized with support from the Savings Banks Finance Group and the Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain.

Devoted to Florence as the first centre of European Mannerism, the large-scale special exhibition will cover the period from the return of the Medici to that city in 1512 and the early artistic forays by the new generation around Pontormo and Rosso to the 1568 publication of the second edition of Giorgio Vasari’s *Lives of the Artists* a work still influential today. More than fifty paintings, but also over fifty drawings and eight sculptures will offer an experience hitherto possible only in Florence – a broad survey of a stylistically formative epoch characterized by the art historiographer Giorgio Vasari with the colourful term “maniera”. One of the most exquisite works in the Städel holdings – Bronzino’s famous *Portrait of a Lady in Red (Francesca Salviati?)* (ca. 1533) – formed the point of departure for this show. The project is being carried out with special support from the museums of Florence, above all the Uffizi, the Galleria dell’Accademia and the Galleria Palatina, which are all contributing exceptional selections of works. Further key loans will come from such prominent institutions as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, the Paris Louvre,

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the Prado and the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid, the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, the Szépművészeti Múzeum in Budapest and the Brera in Milan.

Owing in great part to Leonardo, Michelangelo and Raphael, the High Renaissance of the early sixteenth century is generally considered a zenith in the development of art in Italy. In altogether eight chapters with differing temporal and thematic emphases, the Städel Museum exhibition will now impressively demonstrate that a number of especially outstanding artistic accomplishments can be attributed to the following two generations of artists. The art of Mannerism has many facets: it is elegant, cultivated and artificial, but also capricious, extravagant and sometimes even bizarre. Sophisticated elegance and creative eccentricity characterize the painting of the “maniera” as one of the most fascinating phenomena in Italian art. Building on the trailblazing Florentine presentations “L’officina della maniera” (1996/97), “Bronzino. Pittore e poeta alla corte dei Medici” (2010/11) and “Pontormo e Rosso Fiorentino. Divergenti vie della ‘maniera’” (2014), the Städel Museum’s comprehensive special exhibition will present a broad survey of Mannerist painting in Florence within the context of various genres and the city’s history.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue published by the Prestel Verlag and edited by Bastian Eclercy, with a foreword by Max Hollein and texts by Hans Aurenhammer, Nicholas Scott Baker, Katharina Bedenbender, Anne Bloemacher, Gerd Blum, Ralf Bormann, Matteo Burioni, Heiko Damm, Bastian Eclercy, Chris Fischer, David Franklin, Dennis Geronimus, Sefy Hendler, Theresa Holler, Heidi J. Hornik, Fabian Jonietz, Adela Kutschke, Johannes Myssok, Susanne Pollack, Susanne Thürigen and Linda Wolk-Simon. In German and English, 304 pages, 39.90 EUR (museum edition).

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Curator: Dr Bastian Eclercy, head of the collection of Italian, French and Spanish paintings before 1800, Städel Museum.

Exhibition dates: 24 February to 5 June 2016.

Press preview: Tuesday, 23 February 2016, 11 am.

Location: Städel Museum, Schaumainkai 63, 60596 Frankfurt am Main.

Information: www.staedelmuseum.de, info@staedelmuseum.de, phone +49(0)69-605098-0, fax +49(0)69-605098-111.

Visitor services: phone +49(0)69-605098-232, besucherdienst@staedelmuseum.de.

Opening hours: Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun + holidays 10am – 6 pm, Thu, Fri 10 am – 9 pm.

Special opening hours: 25, 27 and 28 Mar. 10 am – 6 pm, 1 May closed, 5, 15, 16 and 17 May 10 am – 6 pm, 26 May 10 am – 6 pm.

Admission: 14 EUR, reduced 12 EUR, family ticket 24 EUR; admission free for children to the age of 12; combi-price admission + guided tour 16 EUR (available online only); groups (minimum 10 persons): reduced admission fee per person. Groups are required to book in advance by contacting us at +49(0)69-605098-200 or info@staedelmuseum.de.

Early-Bird-Ticket: The first 1,000 online tickets are available at a preferential price of 10 EUR instead of the regular 14 EUR at tickets.staedelmuseum.de.

Advance ticket sales online at: tickets.staedelmuseum.de.

Catalogue: The exhibition will be accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue published by the Prestel Verlag and edited by Bastian Eclercy, with a foreword by Max Hollein and contributions by Hans Aurenhammer, Nicholas Scott Baker, Katharina Bedenbender, Anne Bloemacher, Gerd Blum, Ralf Bormann, Matteo Burioni, Heiko Damm, Bastian Eclercy, Chris Fischer, David Franklin, Dennis Geronimus, Sefy Hendler, Theresa Holler, Heidi J. Hornik, Fabian Jonietz, Adela Kutschke, Johannes Myssok, Susanne Pollack, Susanne Thürigen and Linda Wolk-Simon. In German and English, 304 pages, 39.90 Euro (museum edition).

Visitor's guide: A visitor's guide will be available in German, 40 pages, 7.50 EUR.

Digitorial: The digitorial is being made possible by the Aventus Foundation. Design and programming: Scholz & Volkmer. It will be available from February 2016 at maniera.staedelmuseum.de.

Städel App: The Städel App is sponsored by the FAZIT-STIFTUNG. The app is optimized for Android and iOS smartphone. Starting on the first day of the exhibition, it will offer the audio tour of the show in the form of a smartphone download.

Audio guide: The audio tour is narrated by Giovanni di Lorenzo, chief editor of the *ZEIT*. German and English, 4 EUR, two audio guides for 7 EUR.

Social Media: The Städel Museum is communicating the exhibition on the social media with the hashtags #maniera and #staedel.

General guided tours of the exhibition: Tue 3 pm, Wed 1 pm, Thu 6 pm, Fri 7 pm, Sat 4 pm, Sun 11 am, Fri. 25 Mar., Mon. 28 Mar., Thu 5 May, Mon. 16 May, Thu 26 May 4 pm. Tickets for the general guided tours are available for 4 EUR starting two hours before the tour begins (Sundays from 10 am) at the Städel cashier's desk, or in advance at a preferential price of 16 EUR (admission + guided tour) online at tickets.staedelmuseum.de. The number of participants is limited; previous booking is not required.

Sponsored by: Savings Banks Finance Group, represented by Sparkassen-Kulturfonds of the German Savings Banks Association, Deutsche Leasing and Frankfurter Sparkasse; Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain gGmbH.

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