

Galka Scheyer (1889–1945)

The painter, art dealer and collector Emilie Esther Scheyer came from an entrepreneur's family in Braunschweig which owned the largest can factory in the city at that time. Her biography is surprising for a Jewish girl from a bourgeois home. Her path led her to the USA, where she settled in 1924 and died in Hollywood in 1945. Scheyer was not well known, but the "Blue Four," a group she founded along with four renowned artists of the Weimar Bauhaus: Paul Klee, Vassily Kandinsky, Lyonel Feininger and Alexej von Jawlensky.

Emilie Scheyer initially had her own artistic ambitions. At the age of 16, she left Germany to study painting, sculpture and music in England, France, Belgium and Switzerland. There she met Jawlensky in 1916 and decided to devote her energy to playing a mediatory role in the sale of his works. With the founding of the artist's group "Blaue Vier" in 1924, she became the official art dealer of her "four blue kings," as she herself called "her" artists. She organized numerous exhibitions and photo lectures, and travelled throughout Europe, the USA, and Asia.

This international conference, organized by the Bet Tfila – Research Unit for Jewish Architecture, will focus on a discussion of Galka Scheyer's work and legacy.

Anmeldung/Registration:

Bet Tfila – Forschungsstelle für jüdische Architektur
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Cover: Emmy E. Scheyer, self portrait, 1915, signed RENÉE
(Estate of Lette Valeska - trustees: Julia Hammid & Petra Hammid)

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**BÜRGER
STIFTUNG** Braunschweig 



Galka Scheyer

A Jewish Woman in International Art Business

International Conference | Altstadtrathaus
Braunschweig | 26–27 November 2019

Tuesday, 26 November 2019

11.00 Opening

Dr. Anja Hesse, Kulturdezernentin der Stadt Braunschweig
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Alexander von Kienlin, TU München

Greetings

Prof. Dr. Katja Koch, Vizepräsidentin der TU Braunschweig
Dr. Thomas Richter, Direktor des Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museums Braunschweig

11.45 Panel 1 **Galka Scheyer's Braunschweig Roots**

Chair: Dr. Katrin Keßler, Bet Tfila – Forschungsstelle

Dr. Hansjörg Pötzsch, Niedersächsische Landesmuseen Braunschweig

Provenance Research – Galka Scheyer, Erich Scheyer and the Gesellschaft der Freunde Junger Kunst (Association of Friends of Young Art)

Dr. Renate Evers, Leo Baeck Institute New York

The Art of Lette Valeska – Student and Lifelong Friend of Galka Scheyer from Braunschweig to Hollywood

14.00 Panel 2 **Braunschweig – Europe – the World**

Chair: Dr. Miriam Bistrovic, Leo Baeck Institute

Dr. Gitta Ho, École du Louvre Paris

Jewish Art Dealer Galka Scheyer in Paris – A Search for Traces

Dr. William M. Katin, University of California

Tension Between Business & Art in Galka Scheyer's Agency

16.00 Panel 3 **The Blue Four**

Chair: Dr. Peter Joch, Städt. Museum Braunschweig

Nikolas W. Jacobs, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Galka Scheyer and Alexej Jawlensky's Art

Franziska Lampe, Kunsthistorisches Institut Florenz
Facing the Foreign Home. Galka Scheyer in Photographs by and with Lyonel Feininger

18.00 **Öffentliche Podiumsdiskussion:**

“Deutsch-jüdische Kultur – Transformationen und Transfers”

mit Dr. Felix Klein, Beauftragter der Bundesregierung für jüdisches Leben in Deutschland und den Kampf gegen Antisemitismus, Dr. Miriam Bistrovic, Leo Baeck Institute New York | Berlin, und weiteren Teilnehmern,
Moderation: Dr. Henning Steinführer, Stadtarchiv Braunschweig

Wednesday, 27 November 2019

9.00 Panel 4 **Galka Scheyer and the Business of Art**

Chair: Dr. Lea Weik, Braunschweigisches Landesmuseum

Marian Stein-Steinfeld, Frankfurt, Direktorin des Archivs Hanna Bekker vom Rath und Kuratorin
German-Jewish Artists, Dealers and Collectors between 1910 and 1938

Prof. Dr. Isabel Wünsche, Jacobs University Bremen
Galka E. Scheyer and the Modern Art Scene in California

Gilbert Holzgang, Braunschweig

Galka Scheyer's Life and Social Background in Europe

11.30 Unveiling of the memorial plaque to Galka Scheyer at her birth place (Bürgerstiftung Braunschweig, IJN)

13.45 Panel 5 **Architects in Scheyer's Network**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Miriam Rürup, Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg

Dr. José Parra-Martínez, Universidad de Alicante, and John Crosse, Los Angeles

Galka Scheyer, Maven and Patron of California Modern Architecture

Prof. Dr. Volker M. Welter, University of California Santa Barbara

“Little Friend on the Hill”: Galka Scheyer's Quest for a Home in Los Angeles

15.45 Panel 6 **Galka Scheyer and the Arts**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Thomas Döring, Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museum Braunschweig

Dr. Sven Haase, Zentralarchiv der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin

Provenance Galka Scheyer. Works by Paul Klee in the Berggruen Museum

Gloria Williams, curator, Norton Simon Museum Pasadena
A Force of Nature – Galka Scheyer and First Impressions

17:00 Final discussion

“Galka Scheyer – Jewish Business Woman?”