

18.08.2022 – 10:56 Uhr

## Banksy Exhibition Brings World Famous Artist to Kunstkraftwerk Leipzig



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(18 August 2022) He is world-famous and yet a mystery - Banksy, the Bristol-born and to this day anonymous graffiti artist and painter who is known for challenging the boundaries of the art market and who has been a conversation starter for years with his works. Until 4 September 2022, visitors can dive right into Banksy's art at Kunstkraftwerk Leipzig. "The Mystery of Banksy - A Genius Mind" gives visitors a comprehensive overview and insight into the complete works of the genius and exceptional artist in a lavish and unique setting in the former power plant in Leipzig's hip district Plagwitz. Since its world premiere in Munich in March 2021, more than 350,000 visitors have now seen the exhibition on the exceptional artist in numerous cities in Germany and Austria, making it the most publicised and successful show on the street art superstar worldwide.

The exhibition features an unprecedented presentation of more than 150 works by the celebrated street art superstar: graffiti, photographs, sculptures, video installations and prints on various materials have been reproduced and brought together especially for this special show. In keeping with Banksy's motto "Copyright is for losers ©TM", this homage and the works shown there are not authorised by the artist due to his anonymous status. The exhibition is curated by Virginia Jean. The young curator and gallery owner, who comes from England and lives in Berlin, has already created numerous projects in the field of street art. With the help of her international team, she created this exhibition in three weeks. In the process, she took over all four floors of the Kunstkraftwerk and left the location in a completely new atmosphere.

Exhibition organiser Oliver Forster (COFO Entertainment): "We want to make art an experience, visible to everyone and assembled in one place. Banksy is first and foremost a street artist known for his graffiti, which he has spread all over the world. Besides that, he started selling original signed artworks and limited edition prints quite early on. Most of them are privately owned and therefore not available to the public. With "The Mystery of Banksy - A Genius Mind", we are now trying to make it possible to experience the best motifs in a relaxed atmosphere away from the museum business, but still with high quality standards, by means of true-to-the-original reproductions."

Get an impression of the exhibition here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLSSKDZG5gE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLSSKDZG5gE)

### Who is Banksy?

The British artist, who is estimated to be between 45 and 50 years old, has so far successfully kept his identity a secret. His works, on the other hand, not only conquer the streets internationally, but also the auction houses: he is currently considered one of the most expensive contemporary artists! Banksy is an underground fighter, hotel operator and the undisputed king of street art, who touches people with his sometimes ironic, sometimes political, but always poetic works. As early as 2010, Time Magazine put him on its list of the 100 most influential people in the world for the first time. Many of his pictures have also found their way

into commercial everyday life. The question of whether street art may be commercialised is on a different paper. Spectacular and sensational was the auction of one of his best-known works "Girl with Balloon" in 2018: Shortly after it was knocked down at the Sotheby's auction in London, the painting destroyed itself on the spot by having the lower part cut into strips by a shredder hidden in the frame. Before that, the original had been auctioned for the equivalent of 1.2 million euros.

#### Further Information

- [www.leipzig.travel](http://www.leipzig.travel)
- [mystery-banksy.com/leipzig](http://mystery-banksy.com/leipzig)
- [www.kunstkraftwerk-leipzig.com](http://www.kunstkraftwerk-leipzig.com)

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#### Medieninhalte



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*Girl with Balloon is one of Banksy's most popular works. The auction at Sotheby's made it even more meaningful.* © Maïke Makowka



*The artwork celebrates health workers as the main superheroes of the pandemic.* © Maïke Makowka



*A live elephant was brought into the exclusive exhibition to represent the "elephant in the room". The social criticism quickly spread and made Banksy famous in America in 2006.* © Maïke Makowka



*Follow Your Dreams was completed in 2010, located in Boston, United States. © Maike Makowka*



*The former heating plant in the Plagwitz district has developed into a centre for digital art in Leipzig. © dotgain*

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