



Jürgen Joseph Kaumkötter

Professional CV and Selected List of Publications

Jürgen Joseph Kaumkötter MA
Historian, art historian and curator
born in Osnabrück, 13.07.1969

Research interests

Art in exile, Holocaust art, persecuted art, extensive knowledge of private and museal collections of this period of art, including numerous relevant academic publications.

Professional CV

2014

Preparation of the exhibition: *Nobody bears witness for the witness* in the German Bundestag on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, research trip to Tarnobrzeg, biography of the artist Marian Ruzamski, graduate of the Cracow Art Academy, continuation of research in the archives of the the Academy of Fine Arts and completion of doctorate at the University of Osnabrück.

2013

Conception, implementation and production of the exhibition *Art in the Catastrophe* in the German Bundestag, Berlin; planning and implementation of the exhibition *I was born in your bed*, the Czech contribution to the 55th Venice Biennale, a cooperation between the cities of Prague and Venice.

2010/2011

Conception and production of the following exhibitions: *Francisco de Goya Visions of Horror and Hope* in the Voswinckelshof Museum, Dinslaken; *The Immortality of the Stars. From Goya to Walter Benjamin and Václav Havel* in the Art Museum, Solingen; *Habari Africa. Beauty and Magic in African Art* in the Museum of Sculpture, St Petersburg, Russia and in the art gallery of the Dominican Church, Osnabrück.

2009

Conception and production of *Opening*, the inaugural exhibition of the Museum Montanelli, Prague; development of the museum structure, staff management, achieved membership of ICOM [International Council of Museums] for this private museum.

2008

Conception and production of the permanent literature collection: *The Burnt Poets. Between Heaven and Hell 1918 – 1989* in the Art Museum Solingen; planning and production of the accompanying exhibition with portraits by the photojournalists Wilfried Bauer, Robert Lebeck and Stefan Moses, together with the accompanying exhibition *Peter Kien: Pictures and Poems 1933 – 1944* and an exhibition with contemporary paintings by Jonathan Meese, photographs by Sarah Schönfeld, videos and sculpture by Sigalit Landau.

2003/2006

Conception and production of the touring exhibition *Stories of Love and Inspiration. Fragile Happiness in the Misery of Persecution and Exile. The Jürgen Serke Collection* in the House of the Golden Sun, Wrocław, Poland; Clementinum National Library, Prague, Czech Republic; Saarland State Offices, Berlin and in Mishkenot Scha'ananim, Jerusalem, Israel.

2005

Conception and production of the exhibition *Art in Auschwitz 1940 – 1945*, opening of the exhibition by Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in the Centrum Judaicum – Stiftung Neue Synagoge Berlin, and subsequently in the Felix Nussbaum Haus extension to the Cultural History Museum, Osnabrück and in the Museum of Polish Independence, Łódź, Poland.

2003/2007

Assistant director in the Museum Service, Berlin: supervision of the *Long Night of the Museums*, planning of cultural projects and external funding including planning and production of a year of events in 2004 marking the accession of ten new states to the EU and in 2005 implementation of the Berlin thematic year *Between War and Peace* commemorating the 60th anniversary of the ending of the war in Europe.

2000/2003

Research in the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum, Oświęcim, Poland; holding academic colloquia including *Art from the Concentration Camp: History of Art or History of Artists*; completion of MA studies in History and History of Art, academic publication in *kritische berichte* [art history journal] and in *Dachauer Hefte* [journal published by The International Dachau Committee (CID)].

2000

Conception and implementation of the mediation project *Felix Nussbaum: "Don't let my pictures die!"* – live audio and video broadcast between the island of Norderney, Belgium; Alassio, Italy; Pariser Platz, Berlin; the main camp gate in Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland and the Felix Nussbaum Haus museum in Osnabrück, designed by Daniel Libeskind.

1996/1999

assisted in the preparation of the *26th Council of Europe Exhibition - 1648 War and Peace in Europe* as representative of the Museum of Cultural History, Osnabrück in Westphalian Landesmuseum, Münster; manager of the visitor service in Felix Nussbaum Haus, Museum of Art History, Osnabrück and in the art gallery of the Dominican Church Osnabrück, design and implementation of the visitor and audio guides, support for couriers and VIP guests: staff management of 220 employees, security concept for the exhibition in Osnabrück, 100,000 visitors within three months, of which 50,000 were dealt with by the visitor reception service.

1996/2000 assisted in the tendering and realisation of the Felix Nussbaum Haus by architect Daniel Libeskind, managed sponsors, politicians and press during the construction phase.

1995/2005

Research assistant at the Institute of Art History, University of Osnabrück, from 1998 preparatory studies in art history.

1990

Commenced studies in History and History of Art at the University of Osnabrück; Psychology and History at the University of Bielefeld; Cultural Administration at the Distance Learning University, Hagen

Language skills

English fluent, Polish, Czech and French passive knowledge

List of Publications (professionally relevant selection and press reviews)

Die Unsterblichkeit der Sterne: von Francisco de Goya über Walter Benjamin zu Vaclav Havel; Gemälde und Grafiken von Francisco de Goya; die rekonstruierte Bibliothek Walter Benjamins; Václav Havel und die deutschsprachige Literatur Böhmens; Antworten zeitgenössischer Kunst auf Goya; Maja Bajević ...; [Kunstmuseum Solingen, Zentrum der Verfolgten Künste mit der Sammlung Jürgen Serke in der „Stiftung Verbrannte und Verbannte Dichter- und KünstlerInnen für ein Zentrum der Verfolgten Künste“ der Else-Lasker-Schüler-Gesellschaft und der „Bürgerstiftung für Verfolgte Künste Else-Lasker-Schüler-Zentrum, Kunstsammlung Gerhard Schneider“, 2. Oktober bis 5. Dezember 2010]
Kaumkötter, Jürgen. Solingen : Kunstmuseum, 2010

Press review

"... A true feat. ... an exhibition of historic significance, it closes its doors on 5 December, but is carried forward by a splendid catalogue ... What feelings are released by this recreation of a library which was lost in Europe amidst a sunken Atlantis.... This rediscovered library conveys the illusion that Walter Benjamin is still alive."

Pierre Assouline, Le Monde, 3.12.2010

Habari Afrika : Schönheit und Schrecken in der traditionellen und zeitgenössischen Kunst Afrikas; zeitgenössische Kunst aus der Sammlung Gunter Péus, traditionelle afrikanische Kunst aus der Sammlung Reinhard Klimmt; Kunsthalle Dominikanerkirche Osnabrück; [Städtisches Skulpturenmuseum, St. Petersburg. Leitung Anna Lebedkova, 13.3. - 25.4.2010, Kunsthalle Dominikanerkirche Osnabrück. Leitung André Lindhorst. 11.6. - 25.7.2010, Museum Montanelli, Prag. 2011]
Kaumkötter, Jürgen. Bramsche : Rasch, 2010

Francisco de Goya : Visionen von Schrecken und Hoffnung: Francisco de Goya und Maja Bajević ...; [anlässlich der Ausstellung Francisco de Goya. Visionen von Schrecken und Hoffnung, 20. Juni - 12. September 2010 im Rahmen von Ruhr.2010 Essen Kulturhauptstadt Europas]
Kaumkötter, Jürgen. Merzig : Gollenstein, 2010

Press review

"The exhibition pursues a consistently pacifist concept, showing the confrontation of art with the effects of war and terror on the civilian population. Goya, who as an eyewitness scored the 'Horrors of War' into printing plates, is not left to stand alone and is both an artistic and political cornerstone for succeeding generations. 'Goya' in Dinslaken will become a European memorial project, a timeless outcry against war and oppression – a timely warning to us all, not art as a source of enjoyment, but art as a disturbing, compelling experience. A difficult pill to swallow and a great accomplishment which is part of the contribution of Dinslaken and its partner cities to the year as European Capital of Culture."

Bettina Schack, Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 18 June 2010

Himmel und Hölle zwischen 1918-1989: Die verbrannten Dichter. Sammlung
Jürgen Serke: [anlässlich der Eröffnung der Dauerausstellung der Sammlung
Jürgen Serke]

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. Berlin : Damm und Lindlar, 2008

Press review

".....A wonderful exhibition in the Solingen Art Museum...magnificently served by the catalogue... (it) shows that books, pages of text, manuscripts and letters, photos, pictures and drawings have the ability to make an emotional connection with the viewer. This phenomenon has been demonstrated with exemplary success. It would not be an exaggeration to say this opulent volume has already become the standard reference work..."

Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 April 2008

Peter Kien: Bilder und Gedichte 1933 - 1944: [ein Teil der Ausstellung „Himmel
und Hölle zwischen 1918 und 1989“ anlässlich der Eröffnung der
Dauerausstellung der Sammlung Jürgen Serke]

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. Berlin : Damm und Lindlar, 2008

Kunst in Auschwitz 1940 - 1945: 150 Kunstwerke aus der Sammlung des
Staatlichen Museums Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. In: Museumsjournal, ISSN 0933-0593, Bd. 19 (2005), 2,
S.49-51

Kunst in Auschwitz 1940 - 1945 : [Begleitbuch zu der Ausstellung der Stiftung
Neue Synagoge Berlin – Centrum Judaicum im Kulturgeschichtlichen
Museum Osnabrück/Felix-Nussbaum-Haus und dem Muzeum Tradycji
Niepodległościowych w Łodzi]

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. - Bramsche : Rasch, [2005]

Holocaust-Kunst: ein schmaler Grat

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. In: Dachauer Hefte, Bd. 18 (2002), S. 34-41

Kunst in Auschwitz: ein schmaler Grat.

Kaumkötter, Jürgen. In: kritische berichte, Vol. 31, Bd. 4 (2003), S. 62-76

Further publications and reviews can be found at <http://www.kaumkoetter.de/Website/Publikation.html>