

BERNHARD PRINZ

AMERIKA

25 April 2019

Opening party
25 April 2019, 18–21h

During Gallery Weekend
26 to 28 April 2019, 12–18h

Until 13 July 2019
Please check online
www.wohnkultur66.de

WOHNKULTUR66
SHOWROOM BERLIN

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BERNHARD PRINZ

AMERIKA

Bernhard Prinz's works combine a wide variety of techniques and methods, he works with photography, sculpture, collage, text and combines linguistic and aesthetic elements of current lifestyles with social textures.

Under the motto AMERIKA, the artist shows an installation of furniture from our Vienna-New York collection in combination with original vintage objects by the Jewish architect Ernst Schwadron, who emigrated to the USA, as well as new photographic works representing Flatware and Holloware by Arthur Salm.

His works combine socio-political structures with gestures of consumption and investigate how residual quantities of the real and its staged transformation mix to form pictorial politics. The very title of the exhibition refers to the ambiguity of America as a place of longing and as a vanishing point that offered a home to the persecuted and the afflicted. In an age in which migration is increasingly shaping our society and America is building walls, this myth not only evokes positive associations.

Bernhard Prinz has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions, including Documenta8 Kassel, Serpentine Gallery London, Wiener Sezession, Guggenheim Museum Soho New York, Museum Folkwang Essen, Hanan Museum Tokyo, Museum Ludwig Budapest, Hamburger Kunsthalle.

Ernst Schwadron (1896–1979) emigrated from Austria to America in 1938 on the run from the Nazis. There he established his business "Ernst Schwadron Modern Interiors" in New York, 754 Madison Avenue. He had his furniture designs made by Vladimir Kagan's father. Schwadron would have liked to have returned to Austria after the end of the war, but the Austrian authorities complained that in 1938 it was not so "hasty" and that they could not offer any help because he had emigrated for economic reasons.

Arthur Salm (1904-1988) had a company for stainless steel tableware and cutlery in Germany. In 1938 he fled to Chicago - he was literally "ransomed" at the last second from Dachau. After the war he founded his company Arthur Salm Inc. and from 1957 he cooperated with Carl Auböck on many projects. Over a long period, Manfred Werner built up an extensive collection that was shown last year at the Gallery Weekend of WOHNKULTUR 66 in Berlin.

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Showroom Berlin

WOHNKULTUR66 has specialised in architectural furniture from the first half of the 20th century. Since 1993 Anna-Martina Münch and Manfred Werner have been selling handmade pieces by Scandinavian, Austrian and Austrian-American architects and designers. The showroom is located in a historic building of the slaughterhouse in Hamburg's Schanzenviertel. In 2009 they opened a further showroom in Berlin-Mitte.

Since 2013, WOHNKULTUR66 has had designs by Ernst Schwadron, among others, handcrafted in Denmark according to original specifications under the title Vienna–New York. His dining chairs, for example, can be found in the newly designed restaurant of the MAK in Vienna.

Some of the brands they represent are: House of Finn Juhl, Brdr. Petersens Polstermöbelfabrik, PP Møbler, Friedrich Kiesler Collection & Johannes Spalt by Wittmann, Kalmar Werkstätten, Werkstätte Carl Auböck, Richard Neutra collection by VS, the Frank Lloyd Wright lamp collection and many others.