Presskit of the exhibition

"SW5Y -

Five Years of Civil Sea Rescue"

5th June until 30th August 2020

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PRESS RELEASE

EXHIBITION

SW5Y - Five Years of Civil Sea Rescue 5th June to 30th August 2020

Press tours with prior registration: Thursday, 4th June, 11.30am and 2pm

The Weltkulturen Museum and Sea-Watch e.V. cordially invite you to the press previews on Thursday, 4th June at 11.30am and 2pm to mark the opening of the exhibition SW5Y - Five Years of Civil Sea Rescue in the Weltkulturen Labor, Schaumainkai 37, 60594 Frankfurt. The museum's director Dr. Eva Raabe will take you around the exhibition accompanied by the curators Leonie Neumann (Weltkulturen Museum) and Jelka Kretzschmar (Sea-Watch e.V.).

In order to ensure that we conform to the SARS Covid-19 distancing requirements, you will need to register in advance at weltkulturen.presse@stadt-frankfurt.de, stating which time slot you prefer. Wearing a mask is mandatory in the exhibition. We would be happy to provide you with a non-medical mask free of charge to cover your nose and mouth for the press event.

This special exhibition features photographs and drawings showing impressions, people and moments from five years of civil sea rescue on the world's most deadly border - the Mediterranean Sea.

In addition to presenting examples of active rescue missions and current points of view on displacement and migration, the exhibits honour the dedication of hundreds of volunteers who have come together as part of the civil sea rescue network to prevent people from being left to die, advocate for safe escape routes for everybody and for fundamental human rights to be respected.

SW5Y Confronts Visitors with Facts and Emotions

With around 120 pictures, video presentations reporting people's experiences, and illustrations of the everyday routine on a rescue ship, SW5Y provides factual and artistic insights into the day-to-day existence of rescue operations.

The exhibition seeks to establish a dialogue on the issue of sea rescue, illustrate the dedicated work that is being undertaken, and outline the humanitarian crisis at Europe's external borders. At the start, three short films in the series 'Why Sea-Watch' give a simplified explanation of how the organisation operates in the Mediterranean Sea, the hurdles that Europe places in the way of civil rescuers, and the rules and laws which determine how a rescue mission is conducted. The chronologically arranged photos present the various stages in the development of Sea-Watch: from when it was founded by a group of activists (at the end of 2014) via its increasing professionalisation, the implications of Europe's border policies and the criminalisation of the rescuers, and culminating in the current situation (2020).

In the stairwell up to the exhibition, the series of photos is accompanied by a timeline which presents the most important moments in civil sea rescue. A further piece is devoted to the people who died in one of the largest maritime disasters in the Central Mediterranean, on the so-called 'Il Barcone'. For each person who has been lost, the work presents a fictional obituary. A selection of films opens visitors' eyes to the personal stories of the people who risk the journey across the Mediterranean. Since 2014, over 15,900 people have drowned while fleeing to Europe via the Central Mediterranean.

Since 2015, Sea-Watch has been involved in the rescue of over 37,000 people. More than 500 volunteers from around the world are dedicated to the organisation. Their motivation:

'We didn't want to stand idly by while people were dying in the Mediterranean Sea. They have no safe and legal route to Europe which would enable them to claim their right to asylum."

(FAQ -https://sea-watch.org/das-projekt/faq/)

Curated by Jelka Kretzschmar (Sea-Watch e.V.) and Leonie Neumann (Weltkulturen Museum)

The exhibition will run from 5th June to 30 August 2020. Members of the general public can visit from Friday, 5th June onwards during the normal opening hours.

With the kind support of:







Admission: € 3 / concessions € 1.50

Free admission for children and teenagers up to the age of 18!

Opening hours: Tue.-Sun. 11am - 6pm, Wed. 11am - 8pm

Weltkulturen Labor, Schaumainkai 37, 60594 Frankfurt am Main

PRESS CONTACT

Christine Sturm
christine.sturm@stadt-frankfurt.de
T + 49 (0) 069 212 35095

Julia Rajkovic-Kamara
julia.rajkovic-kamara@stadt-frankfurt.de
T + 49 (0) 069 212 45115

Weltkulturen Museum Schaumainkai 29-37 60594 Frankfurt am Main www.weltkulturenmuseum.de; www.sea-watch.org

Follow us at @weltkulturen.museum and #SW5Y

PRESS MATERIAL

Texts and images: https://www.weltkulturenmuseum.de/de/presse

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF CURATORS

EXHIBITION

"SW5Y - Five years of Civil Sea Rescue" 5th June until 30th August 2020

Jelka Kretzschmar has been a full-time activist in civil sea rescue since spring 2018. She is an integral part of the Sea-Watch media team, with a focus on campaign work and visual strategies. In addition to her involvement with Sea-Watch, she focuses on design as an element for action and critical thinking. She studied graphic design, documentary and communication design with a focus on multisensory information transfer and experimental learning and in that regard leads workshops for adolescents with a focus on artistic, media and technological knowledge acquisition.

Leonie Neumann studied ethnology, sociology and cultural anthropology at the Georg-August-University in Göttingen. She has been working at the Weltkulturen Museum since 2018, completing her scientific traineeship in the Visual Anthropology Department and temporarily taking over as the lead. Since May 2020 she has been curator of the Africa Department.



Fünf Jahre zivile Seenotrettung Five Years of Civil Sea Rescue

05.06. - 30.08.2020

Fotograf*innen und Künstler*innen | Photographers and Artists

Julie Bourdin, Friedrich Bungert, Jacob Ehrbahn, Daniel Etter,
Skye Fitzgerald, Forensic Oceanography, Anja Franke, Chris Grodotzki,
Mikael Grunwaldt, Lisa Hoffmann, Lou Huber-Eustachi, Sarah Hüther,
Nick Jaussi, Kai von Kotze, Emmanuel Kraif, Jelka Kretzschmar,
Philipp Külker, Oliver Kulikowski, Roman Kutzowitz,
Tim Lüddemann, Selene Magnolia, Federica Mameli, Erik Marquardt,
Fabian Melber, Johannes Moths, Ruben Neugebauer, Boris Niehaus,
Syeda Nur-E-Royhan, Adrian Pourviseh, S. R., Moritz Richter,
Sophie Tadeus, Paul Lovis Wagner, Tim Wagner, Felix Weiss,
Regina Wiebe, Marcus Wiechmann

Ausstellungskuratorinnen | Exhibition curators

Leonie Neumann, Jelka Kretzschmar

Ausstellungsgestaltung | Exhibition design

Grafikdesign | Graphic design: CPP Studios GmbH, Tania Sívertsen Aufbau | Construction: Bernd Vossmerbäumer, Thomas Weiser Druck | Printing: plot.com, Klaus Benderoth

Lektorat | Editing

Renate Lindner, Alice Pawlik, Maria Reith-Deigert, Cornelia Schmidt

Eine Sonderausstellung von | A special exhibition by



WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

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PRESSIMAGES

EXHIBITION
SW5Y - Five Years of Civil Sea Rescue
5th June to 30th August 2020



The MS Sea-Watch on her 5th rescue mission in the central Mediterranean. $2015\ /\ \text{Sea-Watch}$



Clearing out the MS Sea-Watch after mission. $2015 \ / \ Sea-Watch$



Drying life jackets, after rescue. 2016 / Chris Grodotzki, Sea-Watch



Hundreds of people flee on old fishing boats from Libyan torture camps across the central Mediterranean.
2016 / Fabian Melber, Sea-Watch

THE WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM AT A GLANCE

Cultural diversity

Thanks to Frankfurt's central situation within Europe, the city quickly became a hub of international trade from its earliest days. As a result, it has a long history of a rich culturally diversity. Since Frankfurt's citizens travelled widely, they also developed a keen interest in the core scholarly and scientific issues of their day. That interest is reflected in the Weltkulturen Museum's collection, which today facilitates and supports the museum's role as a key location for intercultural exchanges and insights.

Fascinating collection

The Frankfurt Weltkulturen Museum collection comprises about 65,000 objects from across the continents and island states, as well as 100,000 ethnographic photographs and films, and library holdings of 50,000 international books and journals. The holdings cover a wide period, including prehistoric artefacts, individual collections from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, as well pieces newly acquired this century. These objects not only narrate fascinating stories from their societies of origin, but are also valuable sources for Frankfurt's history of science and the present production of knowledge. Since the 1970s, the work of the museum has also addressed such issues as non-western aesthetics and definitions of art. In 1985, this led to one major focus being placed on collecting contemporary art from outside Europe. Today, as well as the corresponding collections of artefacts, the museum holdings include a significant number of art works by renowned international artists from Oceania, Africa, Southeastasia, and the Americas.

Interdisciplinary approaches

The Weltkulturen Museum sees itself as a location for interdisciplinary cooperation. As is equally evident in modern societies, there is an intimate connection between people and things with material objects playing a major role in initiating cultural change. In an interdisciplinary approach working with scholars and artists, the ethnological issues related to and arising from the collection's artefacts are further defined and developed. This process encourages new perspectives on ethnographical objects as central and universal bearers of knowledge, enhancing both an awareness of changes in meaning and the topicality of ethnological collections in our own society and globally.

Education as a key concern

In the Weltkulturen Museum, experimentation and educational work are inextricably linked. Our multifaceted range of education services, along with various series of public events, address people of all ages and promote intercultural thinking with great relevance to contemporary life. Even the youngest visitors can explore the museum's collections and their own culturally diverse city.

International presence

With its interdisciplinary exchanges with artists and scholars, its international contacts and cooperation projects with museums, universities, art schools and other cultural institutions, the Weltkulturen Museum expands its potential audience within Frankfurt while also enhancing its appeal for an international public, tourists and visitors to the Frankfurt trade fairs.

The Museumsufer location

The Weltkulturen Museum is located in the heart of Frankfurt's museum quarter, the "Museumsufer" embankment of the River Main. Its immediate neighbours are the Museum of Applied Art, the German Architecture Museum and the German Film Museum — so that the location adds a further dimension to the interdisciplinarity of the Weltkulturen Museum's programme. This setting, embedded in a range of other institutions, allows visitors an even more intensive encounter with the themes and questions addressed in the Weltkulturen Museum, and promotes the idea of the museum visit as an individual research expedition.

Weltkulturen Museum

Schaumainkai 29-37, 60594 Frankfurt am Main weltkulturen.museum@stadt-frankfurt.de
T. + 49 (0) 69 212 31510

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EXHIBITION

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