

Bookable Themes in the Museum Brandhorst

Best of – The Museum Brandhorst

A tour that focuses on the architecture of the museum, the history of the collection and the highlights of the Udo und Anette Brandhorst Collection.

Cy Twombly - Searching for Clues

Scribbles, color cascades, illusions and emotions - Cy Twombly's works raise many questions. With more than 60 examples, the Museum Brandhorst can boast the largest collection in Europe of the works of the American artist Cy Twombly (1928-2011) whose output often reveals the sensitive and lyrical connection between image and text. Udo and Anette Brandhorst discovered their admiration for the artist early on and, throughout the years, have brought together paintings, sculptures and works on paper that span six decades. At the heart of the tour is Twombly's monumental 12-part work "Lepanto" (2001) which hangs in a central gallery in the museum and was designed in line with the artist's specifications.

Art and Society - A Feel-good Pill?

Does art mirror society? And what does art actually say about the times in which we living? Artists address this important contemporary issue with a vast array of form- and media-related strategies. Damien Hirst, for example, confronts us with existential themes, such as mortality and impermanence. Joseph Beuys, within the framework of his conceptual ideas, put forth the concept of "Social Sculpture", calling on society to play a creative role in political processes. The tour includes a short detour to view current video works in the media lounge.

Andy Warhol – Pop Art and its Ramifications

With well over 100 works, the Brandhorst Collection contains one of the largest Warhol collections in Europe. Starting in the early-1960s, Andy Warhol (1928-1987) reproduced the icons and calamities of the "American way of life". Dollar bills and film stars, ethnic riots and soup cans. His silkscreen prints, which he created in his "factory" in large editions, address star cult, consumer behavior and the brutality depicted in various media - these days more topical than ever. The tour comes to a close with a look at Pop Art's "heirs", including Jeff Koons and Sigmar Polke.

Junk and Fakes - Object Art

And that's supposed to be art? Cy Twombly's sculptures are created from trash and found objects, John Chamberlain takes the material for his metal sculptures from scrap metal heaps, and Damian Hirst presents hospital refuse as art. One of the passions of the collectors Udo and Anette Brandhorst is devoted to Arte povera, the art of the "poor", which made use of ordinary materials, like brushwood, neon tubes and beeswax, which are mixed to form unexpected combinations and, even today, challenge the expectations of viewers. What potential does the materiality of artworks hold? A tour that takes a look at unusual and at times disturbing objects in the Museum Brandhorst.

"The Three Lies of Painting" - Figurative Painting

During times of visual overkill, how does representational art fit into the big picture? Has photography and video long overtaken this classic field of painting, which depicts reality and fulfils a narrative function? The answers provided by painters are manifold: media reflections, construed realities and painting for painting's sake. Eric Fischl's planned compositions are reminiscent of film sets, Alex Katz's "surface" paintings call to mind movie and advertising posters, Sigmar Polke once bluntly called one of his works "The Three Lies of Painting".

Current exhibitions

We would be pleased to develop a tour offer designed to meet your needs.