



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

LANDESMUSEUM FÜR MODERNE  
KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR  
STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS

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Press Information Berlin, 22. September 2011

# Friedrich Seidenstücker

## Of hippos and other humans

This first comprehensive retrospective exhibition about Friedrich Seidenstücker presents more than 200 original photographs in the Berlinische Galerie, Berlin's State Museum for Modern Art, Photography and Architecture. Almost every Berliner knows Seidenstücker's photographs. Those who are interested in the history of their city appreciate Seidenstücker's atmospheric shots of everyday life in Berlin during the Weimar Republic. He developed a positively legendary reputation among animal and zoo lovers with his sensitive animal studies, and his haunting images of Berlin in ruins represent a valuable source for historians.

Although Seidenstücker is regarded as a typical Berlin photographer, he is also known far beyond the city boundaries, not least because of one special achievement: his images evidence a sense of humour that is rarely found in photography. Friedrich Seidenstücker's work evolved from this approach to the world. It is based on optimism, but this does not mean that he ignored the difficult conditions and hardships, the poverty and misery of his age.

Seidenstücker concentrated on ordinary people and their everyday behaviour, which he staged sensitively so that characteristic aspects of human nature are visualised. While his almost zoological interest in the animal kingdom led to a methodical thoroughness when taking his photographs at the zoo, one can assume that his street photography came about more by chance, as the urge took him. It seems that the same can be said of his landscapes and photographs of nudes.

In addition to a small group of late nude photographs, which are presented as photographic slides, the exhibition is divided into four more sections: Street Photography, Animal Photography, Landscape Photography, and Berlin after 1945. All 226 photographs exhibited are vintage prints, with the exception of 21 new prints.

This retrospective represents the continuation of the Berlinische Galerie's successful series of exhibitions which, starting out from the museum's own collections, scientifically examines the work of great 20<sup>th</sup> century photographers, making it accessible to a wide audience. This exhibition was preceded by shows of work by Heinrich Zille, Erich Salomon, Fritz Kühn and Herbert Tobias.

An exhibition by the Berlinische Galerie in cooperation with the bpk - Bildagentur für Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte and the Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin. The exhibition and the catalogue have been facilitated by generous financial support from the Förderverein der Berlinischen Galerie e.V.

### ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME:

03.10., 14.11., 05.12., 26.12.2011 all at 2 pm		Tours led by the curator
07.11.2011 5 pm	"Lieber Herr Neusüss! Zum Spaß will ich mal rückwärts anfangen ..."	Ulrich Domröse – curator of the exhibition – in conversation with Floris M. Neusüss, artists and friend of Friedrich Seidenstücker [only in german language]
20.01.2012 7 pm	„Zwischen Ku'damm und Krögel oder Wie die Berliner so sind“	With Evelin Förster (vocals) and Matthias Binner (piano). A musical-literary walk with texts of George Grosz, Hardy Worm, Mascha Kaléko, Gabriele Tergit and songs of Friedrich Hollaender, Mischa Spoliansky, Ralph Benatzky

### FRIEDRICH SEIDENSTÜCKER

#### Of hippos and other humans

#### Photographs 1925-1958



PHOTO EXHIBITION  
October 1, 2011 until  
February 6, 2012

PRESS CONFERENCE  
Fr. 30.09.2011, 11 a.m

OPENING  
Fri. 30.09.2011, 7 p.m

OPENING TIMES  
Wed – Mon, 10 a.m - 6 p.m

PUBLIC TRANSPORT  
U1 / U6 Hallesches Tor  
U6 Kochstraße / U8 Moritzplatz  
M 29, 248

ADMISSION  
Day ticket: 8 Euro / red.: 5 Euro  
1st Monday in every month: 4 Euro  
Free entry for under 18s

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PRESS DOWNLOADS  
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