

The Beautiful Frida: Tehuana huipiles, jewelry as Frida Kahlo painted them

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Starting at the beginning of January till February 25th 2010 additional Tehuana blouses (huipiles), skirts and jewelry will be exhibited in the Kunstmuseum Gehrke-Remund in Baden-Baden, Germany.

Frida Kahlo, whose self-portraits represent over 40% of her work, painted herself with the clothes she used to wear. These were the blouses and skirts the women of the isthmus of Tehuantepec use to wear, these women are known to have strong and independent characters.

The Frida Kahlo exhibition now shows Tehuana blouses as Frida Kahlo painted them, earrings, stone and filigree necklaces, rings as she used to wear.

The flower patterns on the Tehuana blouses are hand embroidered, the geometrical motives are hand woven.

One of the center pieces of the exhibition is the dress painted by Frida Kahlo in “Self-portrait dedicated to Leon Trotsky” (1937, oil on canvas, 87 x 70 cm).

Frida Kahlo has represented herself in a particularly seductive way in warm and soft colours: a salmon coloured full skirt, red blouse, and a rebozo (Mexican shawl) in light brown like the colour of the Russian army. The skirt and blouse now are exhibited and hang next to the painting.

The Tehuana huipiles, skirts, jewels are shown in addition to the permanent exhibition. With over 111 oil paintings (licensed replicas from: © Banco de México Diego Rivera & Frida Kahlo Museums Trust / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2008) in the exhibition, the Kustmuseum Gehrke-Remund in Baden-Baden shows the most complete collection of Frida Kahlo works worldwide.

During this period two additional works concerning Frida Kahlo will be exhibited in the Kunstmuseum: “Frida who are you?”, 2009, Paper mounted on Wood, 90 x 90 cm, by Hannes Mueller, and “Homage to Frida Kahlo”, 2009, Acrylic on Canvas, 200 x 200 cm, by Geert Bordich.

The Kunstmuseum Gehrke-Remund is a privately owned art museum dedicated to showing monographic works. The Kunstmuseum exhibits only the works of Frida Kahlo. The objective of the Kunstmuseum Gehrke-Remund is to offer the visitors a complete view of the entire work of the Mexican artist, allowing in this way to follow the artist’s development, to discover the different phases she goes through in her life: from the very early works to her maturity.

The Vision of the Kunstmuseum Gehrke-Remund is to offer the visitors a unique cultural experience that covers all the

senses, and an environment that touches not only the eyes of the visitors, but their minds, and above all their hearts.

Every decision made in the creation of the museum was driven by two elements:

- respect for the visitors, and
- respect for the artists.

In addition to exhibiting the artworks, the Kunstmuseum Gehrke-Remund shows the environment of Frida Kahlo's life: Tehuana blouses, jewelry, and the entire context in which the artist lived and produced her paintings. This 360° view of Kahlo's life and work allows the visitors to immerse themselves totally into the artworks and to better understand the artist.

The founders of the Art Museum are Hans-Jürgen Gehrke and Dr. Mariella C. Remund. Both are art patrons, collectors, and passionate art historians.

Both have spent over 25 years in executive positions in multinational corporations and academic organizations in Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, USA, Spain, South America and China.

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