

# KÖNIG GALERIE

## KARL HORST HÖDICKE | MYTHS

KÖNIG GALERIE | 13 OCTOBER – 20 NOVEMBER 2022

KÖNIG GALERIE is pleased to open MYTHS, an exhibition with paintings by Karl Horst Hödicke, in the NAVE of ST. AGNES.

Karl Horst Hödicke is an artist whose career has traversed nearly the entire history of postwar German art. Celebrated for his raw expressionism, Hödicke's works chart a path of unwavering commitment to the fundamental elements of painterly practice, with unfiltered concentration, energy, and movement. The artist's subjects range from the everyday world of objects to the most intimate moments of family and discovery to the monuments and narratives of a particular culture or place. Throughout his career, Hödicke has returned again and again to topics pulled from legends and fables, producing vibrant pictures composed of fragments and single figures. MYTHS offers rare insight into a period of activity primarily in the 1970s and 80s, highlighting the subtle gradations of colour, perspective, and themes that run throughout the artist's pictorial worlds.

In the eighteen paintings included in the exhibition, myths belong to many of the themes of the individual works – Medea, sirens, magicians, ancient columns, and haunting views of the ocean, to name a few – but also to the manner in which Hödicke paints, where he creates something almost totemic out of his characters and scenes. Presented in such a way in the capacious Nave of St. Agnes, this carefully selected grouping of works emphasizes a more meditative and introspective side to the artist's work, a temperament that has been less appreciated within Hödicke's prodigious output. Myths are not just stories but ways of seeing and translating the world, and in this respect, the works on display here belong very much to the unique language that Hödicke has developed over seven decades of activity – vigorously alive and unabashedly direct.

Karl Horst Hödicke (born in Nuremberg, Germany in 1938) lives and works in Berlin and is known for his Neo-Expressionist paintings. Having moved to Berlin in 1957, Hödicke became one of the spokespeople for a small group of impetuous young lateral thinkers who wanted to revolutionize painting. No sooner had German post-war modernism rejoined the international artistic trend towards the abstract than they revolted against this new doctrine with a revival of figurative painting, which had been declared obsolete. Hödicke was subsequently a pioneer of German Neo-Expressionism and New Figuration with Georg Baselitz, Jörg Immendorf and A. R. Penck. He was one of the main protagonists and drivers of the New Savages or Junge Wilde movement in 1978, which arose in the German-speaking world in opposition to established Minimal and Conceptual strategies. In 2019 Hödicke had a retrospective of his works shown at Staatliche Graphische Sammlung in Munich, Germany, which in 2020 was on view at Palais Populaire in Berlin. The exhibition was accompanied by a comprehensive publication in 2 volumes.

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### EXHIBITIONS

CHRISTOPHER HARTMANN  
No Signal  
KÖNIG GALERIE  
26.10. – 20.11.2022

ALICJA KWADE  
Medium  
KÖNIG WIEN  
23.09. – 30.10.2022

ALLISON ZUCKERMAN  
KÖNIG SEOUL  
21.10. – 27.11.2022

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Tue – Sat 11 AM – 6 PM  
Sun 12 PM – 6 PM (20.11.2022)