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LEIPZIGER VOLKSZEITUNG

Enjoy art, win art – What to expect on a tour of the Leipzig Spinnerei

Jürgen Kleindienst - September 11, 2025



David Schnell (l.), Sabine Sietina and Christian Seyde hang the artworks for the tombola during the tour of the Spinnerei in the project room next to the Kleindienst Gallery. (Source: Andre Kempner)

David Schnell, the artistic director of Hall 14 at the Leipzig Spinnerei, is delighted: “It’s fun to select and hang the artworks,” says the artist as he and his team prepare the walls in Hall 14 as well as projects from the Kleiner Leipzig gallery. Around 200 works must be distributed. Not for sale, but to be won.

For the gallery’s raffle, works by artists from Leipzig and elsewhere are on offer. The tickets cost between 20 and 200 euros, depending on the prize. Portraits are available, as are abstract compositions. Participants include Matthias Weischer, Neo Rauch, Tilo Baumgärtel, Ricarda Roggan, Benedikt Leonhardt, Volker Ebersbach, Kristina Schuldt, Matti Oehlmann, and many others, well-known names from the Leipzig art scene and beyond.

In 2019, Schnell and Christian Ruckhäberle founded the art association that now organizes the raffle. Last year, it distributed more than 75,000 euros to 45 different projects. Meanwhile, the association already has 190 members. The engagement goes beyond the comfort zone of the established art market,

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supporting humanitarian and democratic causes. Revenues flow into charitable and cultural initiatives, and associations such as Strassenkinder e.V. in Leipzig also benefit. "It is a kind of democratic redistribution," says Schnell.

The raffle is one of the highlights of the Rundgang at the Spinnerei, the studio and gallery complex in western Leipzig. The old cotton mill is again expecting thousands of visitors. Art by major names is on view, but also from younger, still undiscovered talents.

The Intershop gallery, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, is showing new works by the Leipzig-born and Dresden-based artist Roswitha Maul. Her large-scale paintings depict houses in Greenland. The artist traveled there in 2022 and transformed her impressions into canvases that glow with a light reminiscent of the Arctic. Icebergs are visible, even pack ice can be seen. "I wasn't in Greenland in winter," Maul says, "but the cold still comes across in the works."

Her painting "The Night Before," which is being shown for the first time in Leipzig, seems both familiar and alien. In this exhibition, Maul recalls German Romanticism, but she also points toward contemporary ecological concerns.

Another highlight of the Rundgang: the exhibition by Thomas Sommer at Philipp Anders' gallery. Sommer mixes traditional landscape painting with new impulses. He throws plastic waste into romantic scenes, combines them with storm-lashed trees or abandoned houses. The result: poetic coincidences full of irritation.

Also on view: new works by Ulrich Thaler, who is presenting a large-scale painting with scenes by Zoya Cherkassky, as well as works by Gabriela Jolowicz.

The Rundgang at the Spinnerei (Spinnereistraße 7) takes place Saturday and Sunday (Sept 13–14) from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.