

MUSEUM LUDWIG

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PRESS RELEASE

Gabriele Münter **Painting to the Point**

September 15, 2018 – January 13, 2019

Opening: Friday, September 14, 2018, 7 p.m.

Press conference: Thursday, September 13, 2018, 11 a.m., press preview starting at 10 a.m.

Gabriele Münter (1877–1962) was a central figure of German Expressionism and the Blue Rider artist group, which was founded at Münter's house in Murnau. Her role as a dedicated proponent, mediator, and longtime companion of Wassily Kandinsky is well known and recognized. This exhibition demonstrates Gabriele Münter's importance and independence as a painter: with more than one hundred paintings, including works from her estate that will be presented to the public for the first time, it will offer a new look at this strong artist.

Münter is one of the few women who played an early role in developing modernism. Her openness and willingness to experiment as a painter, photographer, and graphic artist will now be presented in detail for the first time. Her well-known paintings include portraits of figures such as Marianne von Werefkin and Kandinsky as well as romantic landscapes of her adopted home in Bavaria. The exhibition begins with rare photographs taken by Münter around 1900 during a multi-year trip through the United States. It will focus on her paintings, which, in addition to colorful portraits and landscapes, also include interiors, abstract works, and "primitivistic pictures."

Thanks in particular to the Haubrich Collection, the Museum Ludwig holds paintings by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Max Pechstein, as well as artists from the Blue Rider group, such as Wassily Kandinsky, Franz Marc, August Macke, and Alexei Jawlensky. Surprisingly, the collection does not include any of Gabriele Münter's paintings. On the occasion of the exhibition, the Museum Ludwig is planning to acquire the work *Knabenkopf (Willi Blab)* by Gabriele Münter, which is on view as a loan in the exhibition. To this end, the Freunde des Wallraf-Richartz-Museum und des Museum Ludwig e.V. started a major donation campaign that has already received a great response.

A large number of the works in the exhibition come from the Gabriele Münter and Johannes Eichner Foundation and from the Lenbachhaus in Munich, which is organizing the exhibition, as well as international collections such as the Des Moines Art Center in Iowa, the Center Pompidou in Paris, and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Curators: Matthias Mühling, Director, Lenbachhaus, Munich; and Isabelle Jansen, Gabriele Münter and Johannes Eichner Foundation; for the exhibition in Cologne: Rita Kersting, Deputy Director, Museum Ludwig

The exhibition is generously supported by the Ministry of Culture and Science of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Peter and Irene Ludwig Foundation, and the Freunde des Wallraf-Richartz-Museum und des Museum Ludwig e.V.

An exhibition by the Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus und Kunstbau München and the Gabriele Münter and Johannes Eichner Foundation in Munich in cooperation with the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humblebæk and the Museum Ludwig in Cologne.

The catalogue for the exhibition *Gabriele Münter: Painting to the Point* was published by Prestel Verlag. Edited by Isabelle Jansen and Matthias Mühling. Hardcover, 272 pages, 20.0 × 27.0 cm, 248 color illustrations, 49 black-and-white illustrations, retail price: 39.95 euros, museum price: 35 euros.

Website and Social Media

During the exhibition, the Museum Ludwig will be posting on its social media channels with the hashtags #museumludwig #MLxGM.

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter/Vimeo: @MuseumLudwig, www.museum-ludwig.de