

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1986

MAJOR PUBLICATION TO ACCOMPANY BERLINART 1961-1987 EXHIBITION

The Museum of Modern Art has published a major catalog to accompany BERLINART 1961-1987, the first comprehensive exhibition in the United States to examine Berlin as a center of contemporary artistic activity. Edited and with an introduction by Kynaston McShine, senior curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture and organizer of the exhibition, the fully-illustrated book assesses Berlin's important contributions to recent art history.

Mr. McShine's introduction to BERLINART 1961-1987 is followed by six essays that offer a critical account of artistic movements in Berlin, including: "Art in Berlin 1900-1937," by John Willett, an authority on Bertolt Brecht and the modern movement in Germany; "Typical and Unique: Art in Berlin 1945-1970," by Wieland Schmied, professor of art history at the Akademie der bildenden Künste, Munich, and former director of the Berlin Artists Program of the DAAD program; "Fluxus and Fluxism in Berlin 1964-1976," by René Block, an independent curator and director of Berlin's DAAD Gallery; "Visitors to a City in Exile," by Karl Ruhrberg, professor of art history and former director of the DAAD; "Hints of Utopia: Art in Berlin since 1977," by Michael Schwarz, professor of art history at the Hochschule für bildende Künste, Braunschweig; and "Berlin and Film," by Laurence Kardish, curator in the Department of Film at The Museum of Modern Art and organizer of BERLINART: 20 FILMS.

Over 400 works of art are illustrated in the catalog. Biographies of the

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- 2 -

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artists, a chronology of cultural and political events relating to Berlin, and a bibliography complete the volume.

Published by The Museum of Modern Art and Prestel Verlag, Munich, Berlinart 1961-1987 was made possible by a generous grant to the Museum by The Bohen Foundation. It contains 282 pages and includes 86 color and 329 black-and-white illustrations. The clothbound edition, available in the Museum Store for \$40.00, is distributed in the United States and Canada by te Neues Publishing Company, New York; the paperbound edition is available in the Museum Store for \$25.00.

British photographer * * * works within a tradition of documentary photography that seeks to address the problems of society. Selected from the series Beyond Caring (1984-85), these color photographs describe the boredom and frustration of people waiting in employment and social services offices across Britain. Often printed in large format, Graham's work renews the viewer's belief in the power of photography to stimulate social awareness.

Barbara Norfleet has taught social sciences at Harvard University for thirty years and is currently director and curator of photography at Harvard's Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts. Her interest in photography developed in the early seventies and has focused primarily on social behavior in America, including the private lives of the wealthy. In her most recent work, Norfleet has lured wild and domesticated animals to outdoor settings carefully arranged with objects, surprising them at night with her camera's flash. In these intensely colorful photographs, nature meets civilization in bizarre confrontations.

Brooklyn-born photographer Thomas Ross is represented by a series of black-and-white photographs made in Sicily between 1982 and the present. Depicting the island's landscape, architecture, and people, the photographs describe an ancient culture little changed by contemporary society. A self-taught photographer, Ross works with a large-format camera of his own design, using complex printing techniques to capture the brilliant light of the Mediterranean landscape. He is currently a member of the photography faculty at the Yale School of Art.

No. 55

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