EXHIBITION  

JOHN HEARTFIELD: PHOTOMONTAGES

DATES  

April 15 - July 6, 1993

ORGANIZATION  

Magdalena Dabrowski, Curator, Department of Drawings, The Museum of Modern Art

SPONSORSHIP  

The showing at The Museum of Modern Art has been made possible by a generous grant from the Robert Lehman Foundation, Inc.

CONTENT  

John Heartfield, one of the significant figures of twentieth-century German art, created works that are among the most powerful images of political art of the modern era. A member of the Berlin Dadaists, Heartfield is known as the inventor of the photomontage. Indeed, his works in this medium remain among the most vivid and passionate satirical images of the German plight in the 1930s. As one of the first artists to use the techniques of the mass media to probe and reveal the harsh realities behind appearances, Heartfield’s art is particularly relevant today, when many artists in Europe and North America draw on the techniques and appearance of the mass media to create a highly politicized art.

The exhibition features approximately 120 works, including over 60 photomontages, as well as a number of Heartfield’s book covers and photomontage reproductions from the left-wing publication Arbeiter Illustrierte Zeitung. These works were chosen from the 1991 touring retrospective organized by the Akademie der Künste zu Berlin, the Landesregierung Nordrhein-Westfalen, and the Landschaftsverband Rheinland.

PUBLICATION  


TRAVEL  

After its New York showing, this exhibition travels to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (July 23 - September 19, 1993) and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (October 7, 1993 - January 2, 1994).

For further information, contact the Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9750.

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FACT SHEET