



**“PastPresentFuture – Highlights from the UniCredit Collection”
An Exhibition at Yapı Kredi Cultural Center, Istanbul
Featuring 90 International Works and Spanning Four Centuries of Art**

Selected works from across the UniCredit Art Collection and Yapı Kredi Art Collection

Yapı Kredi Cultural Center in Istanbul will host the exhibition titled “**PastPresentFuture**”. The UniCredit Art Collection, one of Europe’s largest corporate collections, is the source of this travelling exhibition which opens in Istanbul, European Capital of Culture for 2010, after the debut in Vienna in October 2009 and the stop in Verona last spring. The exhibition will be open between November 6th 2010 and January 7th 2011. On display there will be works from the collections of the various banks of the Group. There will also be seven works from the Yapı Kredi Art Collection, including Osman Hamdi Bey’s *Feraceli Kadınlar* (Women Wearing Fullcoats, 1887) a masterpiece from the turn of the century in Istanbul.

Curated by UniCredit & Art Scientific Commission Chairman Walter Guadagnini, the exhibition spans four centuries European art history and creates a dialogue between eras and languages. With this exhibition, including 90 works, UniCredit Group’s significant art collection meets with Turkish art lovers for the first time.

The company’s artistic and cultural heritage is mainly derived from the collections of UniCredit in Italy, HypoVereinsbank in Germany and Bank Austria. It comprises 60,000 works that together capture the history of art from ancient Greece and classical Rome to the present day. The collection, which is currently being studied and re-catalogued, is a trans-European museum that can be experienced in the Group’s main offices and at the sites of its institutional partners in culture.

The show’s concept is based on a variety of languages and allows visitors to see the past through contemporary eyes and to look from the present towards the future. From ancient works by significant painters including Giovanni Girolamo Savoldo and Dosso Dossi, the exhibition moves to collages by Kurt Schwitters and canvases by Giorgio de Chirico, to installations by such artists as Tony Cragg, Stephen Balkenhol and Giulio Paolini, and to photographs by Andreas Gursky and Thomas Struth.

PastPresentFuture creates a dialogue between cultures and among art – with ancient and contemporary works juxtapositioned alongside paintings, photographs, installations and sculptures. This kind of exchange, established thematically, elicits a sensory and conceptual experience that is both charming and surprising to the viewer.

THE EXHIBITION

All three exhibition halls at the Yapı Kredi Cultural Center: Vedat Nedim Tör Museum, Kâzım Taskent Art Gallery and Sermet Çifter Hall will house sections of the show, capturing both dialogue and classical themes of art history, including nature and the representation of self, the body and objects. In addition to engaging both the past and the present, this dialogue explores man’s historical relationship to his world through natural, interior, human, urban and social landscapes.

The exhibition opens with a section entitled “On the Classic”, which presents a surprising dialogue between contemporary artists – including Thomas Struth, Candida Höfer, Olivo Barbieri and Giulio Paolini – and past masters such as the *bamboccianti* Van Bloemen, the *pictor classicus* de Chirico and the decadent Makart. The work of these artists joins to give new shape and sense to history’s perennial themes.

The exhibition moves on to the “Sublime and Picturesque” section, bringing together such artists as 17th century painter Paul Bril and Charles Daubigny – the leading member of the “Barbizon School” – with the contemporary artists Georg Baselitz, Andreas Gursky, Hans Op De Beeck.

Next, in the “Metropolis” section, visitors arrive at the works of current leading creative minds. This includes more by Andreas Gursky, as well as pieces by Gabriele Basilico, Fischli & Weiss, Lorca di Corcia and Wolfgang Tillmans. Here a relationship is developed between the individual and urban spaces. This is followed by the theme of “rule” that characterizes the “On Geometry” room, with works by Imi Knoebel, Gerwald Rockenschau, Ghada Amer and others.

Representations of the body and face are featured in “Body Talk” and “Face to Face,” two of the exhibition’s most striking sections. Visitors can see, side by side, a masterpiece by Antonio Donghi and a photograph by Valie Export, the pioneer of Viennese Body Art; Dossi’s magnificent “*Psiche abbandonata da Amore*” alongside photographs by E.J. Bellocq; Savoldo’s “*Ritratto di un gentiluomo con flauto*” tête à tête with anonymous faces depicted by the young Austrian artist Hans Schabus; Baglione’s extremely rare “*La testa del Battista presentata ad Erode*” next to Trude Fleischmann’s photograph of Alban Berg’s death mask.

This unexpected tour closes with “Objects of Desire,” in which an installation by Tony Cragg is in close quarters with a still life by Ruoppolo is alongside Andy Warhol’s famous “*Flowers*.”

All of the works are from the UniCredit Art Collection. While some of the featured works are on display for the first time, others have been shown in leading institutions that include the Munich Alte Pinakothek, the Tosio Martinengo Art Gallery in Brescia, the Salzburg Museum der Moderne and MAXXI in Rome.

The show is accompanied by a bilingual catalogue – English/Turkish (published by Yapı Kredi Culture, Arts and Publishing). In this catalogue, all of the exhibited works are illustrated in full color.

Authors (in alphabetical order):

Doug Aitken, Ghada Amer, Giovanni Baglione, Stephan Balkenhol, Olivo Barbieri, Georg Baselitz, Gabriele Basilico, Ferruh Başağa, E.J. Bellocq, Michael Biberstein, Matthias Bitzer, Paul Bril, Fatma Bucak, Balthasar Burkhard, Piero Pizzi Cannella, Vincenzo Castella, Jordi Colomer, Tony Cragg, Charles-François Daubigny, Giorgio de Chirico, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Antonio Donghi, Dosso Dossi, Igor Eskinja, Valie Export, Trude Fleischmann, Fischli & Weiss, Andreas Gursky, Jitka Hanzlová, Hoca Ali Rıza, Candida Höfer, Francesco Jodice, Mimmo Jodice, Imi Knoebel, Heinrich Kühn, Maria Lassnig, Richard Long, Hans Makart, Ryuji Miyamoto, Şükran Moral, Muntean/Rosenblum, Aydan Murtezaoğlu, Jean-Marc Nattier, Hermann Nitsch, Hans Op de Beeck, Osman Hamdi Bey, Ferhat Özgür, Luca Pancrazzi, Giulio Paolini, Arnulf Rainer, Gerhard Richter, Gerwald Rockenschau, Andrei Roiter, Giovan Battista Ruoppolo, Füsün Sağlam, Giovanni Gerolamo Savoldo, Hans Schabus, Kurt Schwitters, Annelies Strba, Miha Strukelj, Beat Streuli, Christine Streuli, Thomas Struth, Wolfgang Tillmans, Marco Tirelli, Carlo Valsecchi, Stendardo, Andy Warhol, Franz West, Erwin Wurm, Heimo Zobernig.

UniCredit Commitment to Culture

UniCredit, besides possessing one of the greatest corporate art collections in Europe, promotes the spread of culture, with initiatives aimed at promoting the conservation and valorization of the artistic heritage of the countries in which it operates and fostering young talents in the field of contemporary art. UniCredit has developed an innovative partnership model, based on the management of long-term projects shared with other key institutions in the field of visual arts, music and literature.

General information:

“PastPresentFuture – Highlights from the UniCredit Collection”

Yapı Kredi Cultural Center, November 6 – January 7, 2011

Address:

Yapı Kredi Cultural Center, 161 Beyoğlu, Istanbul

Tel: + 90 212 252 47 00 (pbx)

Opening Hours:

Monday-Friday: from 10 am to 7.30 pm

Saturday: from 10 am to 7.30 pm

Sunday: 1 pm to 7.30 pm