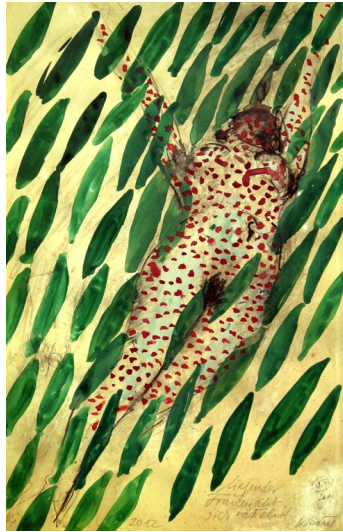


# BECK & EGGELING

PRESS RELEASE

**Victor Kraus**  
**Rodin-Paraphrasen**  
*and Auguste Rodin's sculpture 'Baigneuse Zoubaloff'*

**7th November 2014 until 17th January 2015**



left: Victor Kraus, *Liegender Frauenakt, sich räkelnd*, 2012, watercolour on page, 30,3 x 19,5 cm  
middle: Auguste Rodin, *Baigneuse Zoubaloff*, 1885 (cast 1944), bronze with brown patina, 36 x 17,6 x 23,5 cm  
(Courtesy of Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet, Berlin)  
right: Victor Kraus, *Sitzendes sapphisches Paar*, 2012, watercolour on page, 28 x 21,5 cm

Beck & Eggeling proudly present the exhibition 'Rodin-Paraphrasen' with works by Victor Kraus and Auguste Rodin's sculpture *Baigneuse Zoubaloff*.

**The exhibition opening takes place at Bilker Strasse 5 in Düsseldorf on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014 from 6 pm, on the occasion of the gallery weekend 'Kunst in der Carlstadt'. The artist will be present.**

Victor Kraus was deeply impressed by Rodin's nude drawings from the last twenty years of his oeuvre. „The looseness and playful easiness of his lines are wonderful“. Leafing through the elaborately illustrated catalogue „Auguste Rodin, 100 Zeichnungen und Aquarelle“ (100 drawings and watercolours), published in 1988 by Lingen Verlag, Cologne, Kraus found his inspiration and was enraptured by the beauty and quality of the works reproduced in this book.

In the year of 2012 Kraus reworked all of the 100 nude drawings from the book, partly with a pastose watercolour technique, partly making watercolour pencil drawings and also adapting

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them in parts to make collages. Victor Kraus describes his intention for this series as follows: „The paleness of Rodin's colours and the often poor contrasts alone, have prompted me to impose my painterly approach on these reproduced drawings. That is, in fact, to some degree quite disrespectful, but the desire to transform or even reinterpret this group of works has seduced me to commit this sacrilege.“ The thus created works on paper sometimes have more, sometimes less or at times even hardly anything left in common with the original motifs, however, the soul of these drawings can still be sensed throughout. Two years later the artist transferred a few of the motifs to larger format onto canvas and cardboard. As the solitaire of a painterly paraphrase of a sculpture by Rodin he created the large format work on canvas *Torso der Adele* (2014).

The exhibition is accompanied by the presentation of the sculpture *Baigneuse Zoubaloff* by Auguste Rodin.

Beck & Eggeling is showing the fifth solo exhibition of Victor Kraus and, on the occasion of his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, looks back upon many years of close and friendly cooperation with the artist which began in Leipzig in 1995. Kraus studied at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste (Academy of Applied Arts) in Munich from 1977 until 1982 under professor Sauerbruch. Several scholarships and awards followed, such as a scholarship from the federal state of Niedersachsen in 1985 and in 1990/1991 a scholarship in the USA from the Bavarian ministry of culture in San Francisco. In 1986 Victor Kraus was awarded the Bavarian national award for applied arts and in 2011 he was awarded the first prize at the Bavarian competition 'KUNSTamBANDamLIMES'. The Sprengel Museum Hannover (1987), the Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe (1991), the Kunstmuseum Ahlen (2007), the Kunsthalle Schweinfurt (2012) and other national and international museums and galleries have honoured him with solo exhibitions.

**A catalogue will be published by Beck & Eggeling Kunstverlag on the occasion of this exhibition.**

**Special opening times during 'Kunst in der Carlstadt':**

Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014: 6 – 9 pm

Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2014: 10 am – 6 pm

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