

"Nature - Beauty and Destruction" as the motto of the LBBW special exhibition

Karlsruhe, 25.01.2024 An impressive list of artists, a high-calibre line-up straight out of a picture book of contemporary art history: from Franz Ackermann and Anselm Kiefer to Diana Thater and Thomas Grünfeld to Olafur Eliasson and Andreas Gursky. What Landesbank Baden-Württemberg (LBBW) and its predecessor institutions have collected since 1970, totalling around 3,000 works, is truly impressive.

Sarah Haberkorn, Head of the LBBW Collection from January 2024, is curating a special exhibition entitled "Nature - Beauty and Destruction", which will present a changing field of tension between beauty and destruction with depictions of flora and fauna.

Sarah Haberkorn comments: "This raises critical questions about the relationship between man and nature: What place does nature have in culture? What is our relationship to nature? To what extent is nature repressed, adapted or manipulated? Where and how do destructive processes become visible?".

Haberkorn will cover a broad spectrum - from the Impressionist Max Slevogt, who painted the "Quarry near Albersweiler" in 1912, to the contemporary duo Julian Charrière and Julius von Bismarck, who recreated and blasted rock formations. Nature vandalism as a theme. According to Sarah Haberkorn, the work also deals with the question of "which landscapes are categorised as worthy of protection and what happens when they are destroyed".

The fact that the LBBW art collection was not only used decades ago to decorate the company's offices in a representative manner, but was also dedicated to promoting artists and the social issues of the time, is shown by the fact that the Landesbank has repeatedly acquired works over the past century that deal with issues such as identity, globalisation, digitalisation, the environment and sustainability.