

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release

## DRAWING IN AUSTRIA AND GERMANY

Through October 1985

The current installation in the Drawings galleries at The Museum of Modern Art presents a comprehensive selection from the permanent collection of Austrian and German drawings and original works on paper. Organized by Bernice Rose, curator in the Department of Drawings, the installation reflects the development of drawing in Austria and Germany. Works by leading artists of this century are presented chronologically, beginning with drawings from the turn of the century and concluding with contemporary drawings.

As Ms. Rose wrote in her introduction to the exhibition, "At the center of German drawing is Expressionism.... Expressionism, in the broad sense, has been used to describe the work of any artist who, rather than imitate the outer world of natural appearances, rejects or modifies it to reveal an inspired and imaginative inner world. In practice, Expressionist art employs the free and intuitive exaggeration of the everyday forms and colors of nature.... As a historian and colleague has noted, 'The individual attitudes of many of these artists who worked in Germany were fevered by passion, alternating exaltation and despair.'"

The first section of DRAWING IN AUSTRIA AND GERMANY includes works by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Erich Heckel who formed the group Die Brücke (The Bridge) in 1905 with Karl Schmidt-Rottluff. Die Brücke was established in Dresden as the first organized reaction against Impressionism, which had become accepted by the conservative art establishment by 1905. Its members worked, exhibited, and published together in a boldly energetic and pioneering fashion.

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