



## MAX WEINBERG BIOGRAPHY

### Max Moshe Weinberg

1928 Born in Kassel, Germany

1933 Escaped to Palestine, Israel

1959 Returned to Germany

1959-2018 Lived and worked in Frankfurt, Germany

2018 Died in Frankfurt, Germany

2019 Max Weinberg Gallery was open in his memory in Frankfurt, Germany

Max Moshe Weinberg (1928-2018) was a German Jewish painter, graphic designer and sculptor. He was one of the most significant artists of the City of Frankfurt and the State of Hessen. Well-known for the extra-terrestrial creatures which crowded his paintings, his trademark colour pink and his unique personality, his death left a huge vacuum in the culture scene of "Mainhattan", where he started his brilliant career in 1959. As an independent artist, Max Weinberg was granted since the middle of the Sixties and until his death, with regular support of the City of Frankfurt, the State of Hessen and the Federal Presidential Office.

Max Weinberg was born on the 19th of January 1928 in Kassel, where his father had moved after escaping from the first Jewish persecution in Poland and married Nascha Krug (originally from Kalynia -Ukraine). The fifth child of seven, Max Weinberg had three sisters and three brothers, including Max's twin brother Samy and Arno, (1926-1941), who was born with a severe condition (Hydrocephalus).

In 1933 the family fled to Palestine (Israel from 1948) to escape from the persecution of the Nazism but was forced to leave behind the small Arno who was being treated for his sickness at the Weilmünster Nursing Home since a baby. In 1941 he will fall victim of the killing facility Hadamar, where he was taken on the 7th of February 1941, according to the premises official register of executions. In 2016 nine "Stolpersteine" were installed in Kassel (Schäfergasse) each one of them in memory of the members of the Family Weinberg who had to flee from the persecution of the Nazism in 1933.

For the small child, the new home was a paradise: white sand, blue sky, warm sea, snakes, and scorpions but most of all, a lot of light. Those memories will be later bringing to life in his beautiful Lithography and paintings with the same brilliant light of the beach of Israel, where a young Max started selling his paintings with only 13 years of age.

Aware of the talent for painting of his son and having to deal with his refusal to attend the regular school, his father allowed him to follow his passion but at the condition to have him attending a religious school where to learn the principles of the Torah. And during those years, the teenager would also discover his passion for Beethoven music, which he found immediately so powerful, beautiful, and inspiring to decide to make it his, like a sort of inspiring Muse to accompany him while creating his masterpieces.



In 1948 he had to join the army to defend his newborn State of Israel. He served his country, but he soon found himself in a very difficult position when refusing to observe an order of shooting. For this behaviour he was dismissed in 1950. Painting was his only passion and because of his great talent, he signed straightaway an exclusive and profitable contract with a famous art Gallery in Tel Aviv. His earnings allowed him to finance his education at the State Academy of Culture and Art in Tel Aviv, where he studied with Professor Mokady, Stimalzky and Steichmann from 1954 to 1958.

In 1959 the artist moved back to Germany together with his younger brother Bernard. And in Frankfurt am Main, a city with a very old Jewish tradition, a very open atmosphere to art and culture and a multicultural population, the artist found his second home.

From 1961 to 1963 he attended the drawing course at the “Städel” Evening School with Professor Walter Hergenhausen. His strong personality and his continuous refusing to follow the rules of learning at the Institution, made him soon been noticed. When one of his professors suggested him to forget about art and get a proper job, he did not think it twice: it was the beginning of his long and successful career as independent artist.

1965 marked the official start of his brilliant career as an independent artist, with his artworks regularly on display in many Group Exhibitions in Frankfurt, Hessen and the nearby cities. His early artistic career went through various stages. The first stage was characterized with a very rich production of Lithography where a mix of different colours was used to create a beautiful, crowded world of thousands of small figures and light, like a reminder to his youth at the beach in Israel. Many abstract works were also produced in those years with colours and techniques that will never be used again in the years to come. Unfortunately, only few of these wonderful pieces of art can be seen today in their original forms, because most of them was painted over and over during the following years in the typical style of the artist.

In 1972 Max Weinberg's first and only son Jonatan, was born and the artist's spend his time teaching his child the freedom of expression with colours and brushes like a game of pure imagination. In the following years and together with his brother Bernard, the painter will travel to London, the South of France, and the South of Spain to meet up with the many young artists defining the European cultural scene at that time.

During the Eighties, Max Weinberg continued his artistic experiments and the discovered “pink” as a brilliant colour to be included in his paintings, with its power and its energy impossible to remain unnoticed. Pink would become his signature colour from now on, never to be missed in his creation, together with black and white.

Because of the troubling political times living Europe and the of a new wave of antisemitism and violence, the painter started a flourished production of many different types and styles of Lithographies and Paintings to work at the Holocaust and at his own personal experience with violence during the years of the escape of his family to Palestine. Some of them will be exhibited in a travelling Exhibition in collaboration with the artist Barbara Greul Aschanta: “The Destruction of the Jewish – a Confrontation”.

At the beginning of the Nineties, the sudden loss of his beloved brother Bernard created a big vacuum in the heart of Max Weinberg who suddenly felt the necessity to be surrounded of young people to feel young himself and not to lose his inspirational Muse. From these years he will start wearing a very thick eyeliner contour around his eyes in the style of the German pop group “Tokyo Hotel”. His new motto became: “Bleibt cool” (Stay cool), a sort of signature greetings of Max Weinberg until his very last day. Mixed technique with Pastels, Oil, Acrylic, Tempera



colour, Airbrush and new extreme erotic scene and naked portraits, belong to his production of those years, when he systematically shared his time with young people.

Max Weinberg's creativity and his tireless experimenting with new technique and styles not to fall under any of the art currents at the time, was matched with his very independent, provocative, and irreverent personality. During his long career he preferably showed his artworks in group exhibition together with other young artists around the world, better than in solo exhibition. Max Weinberg's artworks landed in private collections in Russia, USA, Japan, France, Israel, Spain, Luxembourg, etc.

In 1997 the artist created his one and only sculpture "Die Überirdische Frau" (the extra-terrestrial woman) that will later at the Expo 2000 in Hannover exhibited and afterwards in other exhibitions in Luxembourg and France.

The year 2000 marked the beginning of a new millennium and the almost seventy years old Max Weinberg decided it was time to experiment something completely new. He invented a new Graffiti technique: Polyurethan isolating foam mixed with colours in a thick cream to be used for painting with a 3D effect.

In August 2008 the solo Exhibition "Spielraum der Phantasie" (Playground of the imagination), Retrospective for the 80th Birthday took place in Frankfurt where his masterworks "Beethoven" and "Frau mit Hut" (Woman with hat) were exhibited in the A1 Halle Sachsenhausen together with many other of his beautiful colourful, provocative paintings.

In January 2018, for his 90th birthday the last Exhibition in his lifetime was organised at the Chief Financial Directorate of Frankfurt am Main: "Max Weinberg. Monuments and Milestones of the life of an Artist".

On April 18th Max Weinberg died in his beloved Frankfurt am Main, his second home "Mainhattan", as he was used to call his city. From 1959 to 2018 Max Weinberg was a fundamental element of the Art scene in Frankfurt am Main, who loved to be surrounded with young artists and show them to be free to experiment and live their dream. He was always very provocative in his art and with a very strong and independent personality, refused any sort of compromise. An exhibition of his extra-terrestrial masterpieces in the Schirn or in the Städel Museum was the dream of his life, a dream that unfortunately was never fulfilled.

In December 2018 Max Weinberg was granted posthum the "Goethe Plakette of the City of Frankfurt", a plaque which can be awarded to "...poets, writers, artists and scholars and other personalities of cultural life who, through their creative work, are worthy of an honour dedicated to Goethe's memory".

In May 2019 the Max Weinberg Gallery was opened in Alt-Rödelheim (Frankfurt, Germany) by his son Jonatan, exactly where the thirty years old German-Jewish began in 1959 his new life as an independent artist.



## **Education**

1954 -1958 State Academy for Culture and Art, Tel Aviv: Studies with Professor Mokady, Stimatzky and Streichmann

1961-1963 Städelschule, State College for visual Arts, Frankfurt: Drawing studies with Professor Walter Hergenbahn.

## **Awards and Grants**

1987 The International Senefelder Foundation Award for Lithography, Offenbach, Germany

1993 The Print graphic Award 1993 of the International Southwest LB, Germany

1994 The Walter Schadt Award, Germany

2018 The Goetheplakette (Posthum) of the State of Frankfurt, Germany

## **Solo Exhibitions**

1970 Museum for Ethnology "Malerei, Zeichnungen und Lithografien" (Paintings, Drawings and Lithography), Munich, Germany

1971 Gallery Vonderbank "Lithographien" (Lithography), Frankfurt, Germany

1973 Gallery Bookshop in Rue de la Seine "Lithographien" (Lithography), Paris, France

1974 Gallery Legge "Lithographien" (Lithography), Marburg, Germany

1980 Congress hall "Malerei und Zeichnungen" (Paintings and Drawings), Giessen, Germany

1982 Private Exhibition for Adam Seida (Art's critic), Frankfurt, Germany

1985 Municipal Gallery Canvas House "Malerei und Zeichnungen" (Paintings and Drawings), Frankfurt, Germany

1987 The International Senefelder Foundation Award for Lithography, Offenbach, Germany

1988 Museum for Foreign Relations (Jewish) – Riga, Latvia

1989 Country Representation of Essen, Bonn, Germany

1991 BBK – Essen "Landesausstellung '9" (National Exhibition '91), Kassel and Frankfurt, Germany

1993 The LB Southwest International Award for Print graphic, Stuttgart and Mannheim, Germany  
Publication of a Catalogue

1994 Gallery Schamretta "The Walter Schadt Award", Frankfurt, Germany



- 1995 Municipal Gallery Canvas House, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1996 Gallery Klonk-Tatort, "40 Erotische Variationen über das Gothelied" (40 Erotik variations of the Song of Salomon), Frankfurt, Germany
- 1997 Sculpture in Park, Oberursel, Germany
- 2003 Art Association Artlantis, Bad Homburg, Germany
- 2004 House of the Union Youth, Oberursel, Germany
- 2004 Kroch-House, Custody, Art Collection "Megafett", Leipzig, Germany
- 2004 Gallery U7 "Kunst mit Max Weinberg" (Art with Max Weinberg), Frankfurt, Germany
- 2005 Contemporary Art at Meix Roblin, Burgundy, France
- 2006 PDVSA Centro de Arte la Estancia (PDVSA, Venezuelan Oil Company), Caracas, Venezuela
- 2007 IMA, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2007 Culture barn "Max Weinberg", Schöneck, Kilian Stätten, Germany  
Opening from the Mayor Ludger Stüve
- 2008 Platform Sarai "Max Weinberg 80 works on paper", Frankfurt, Germany
- 2008 Gallery Hosenstall, Hamburg, Germany
- 2008 Museum for Modern Art "Atelier Tour for Udo Kittelmann", Frankfurt, Germany
- 2008 Exhibition Hall 1A Sachsenhausen "Spielraum der Phantasie. Retrospektive zum 80. Geburtstag" (Playground for the imagination. Retrospective for the 80th Birthday", Frankfurt, Germany  
Under the Patronage of the Ministry of Culture of Frankfurt and the Jewish Museum of Frankfurt.  
Supported by the City of Frankfurt, The Foundation "Art Fund", the Jewish Community of Frankfurt, the Josef Buchmann Real Estate Company, the "Foundation Memory Lindau", the Frankfurter Sparkasse, the B`Nai Brith.  
Publication of a Catalogue
- 2009 Showroom Eulengasse "Max Weinberg – kleine Arbeiten aus der großen Stadt – Malerei/ Mischtechnik" (Max Weinberg – small Works from the big City – Paintings, Mixed Techniques), Frankfurt, Germany
- 2010 Gallery Wagner "Max Weinberg", Offenbach am Main, Germany
- 2010 Municipal Atelier House "Eklektiker – Atelierfest in der Ostparkstrasse 47-49" (Eclectic– Atelier party in Ostparkstrasse 47-49), Frankfurt, Germany
- 2011 Gallery Golkan, Project Room at the Cure Park "Ludwig van Beethoven", Bonn, Germany



Supported by the Ministry of Culture of Frankfurt, the Law Firm Tunkl and Partner in Bonn

2012 Gallery Art by Gora “Überirdisch, Malerei und Zeichnungen” (Extra-terrestrial, Paintings and Drawings), Frankfurt, Germany

2012 Atelier Max Weinberg “Frankfurter Ateliertage 2012” (Atelier Open Day Frankfurt 2012), Frankfurt, Germany

2013 Neozoongallery “Überirdisch” (Extra terrestrial), Wiesbaden, Germany

2015 Art Association Offenbach “Kunst im komm – Max Weinberg” (Art to come – Max Weinberg), Offenbach am Main, Germany

Supported by the Ministry of Science and Art of Hessen, the Cultural City Office of Offenbach am Main, the Bank for Science and Infrastructure of Hessen, the Konrad Häggel art-design Studio, the Science Promotion Office, Offenbach am Main.

2016 Denkbar “Max Weinberg – der Blick dahinter” (Max Weinberg – the Look behind), Presentation and Information on the Documentary, Frankfurt, Germany

2016 Switch Hall of the Ministry of Science and Art of Wiesbaden “Überirdisch”- Ausstellung Aktueller Arbeiten anlässlich des 88. Geburtstag von Max Weinberg (Extra terrestrial” Exhibition of Current Works in occasion of the 88th Birthday of Max Weinberg

Under the Patronage of Boris Rhein, Minister for Science and Art of Hessen, Wiesbaden, Germany  
Publication of a Catalogue

2017 State Gallery “Pretties in Pink” Bad Soden, Germany

2017 Underground Galerie “Max Weinberg”, Neu Isenburg, Germany

2017-2018 Lo Studio Büdingen “Max Weinberg”, Büdingen, Germany

Under the Patronage of the Magistrate of the State of Büdingen.  
Birthday Party with Fireworks for the 90th Birthday

2018 Main Triangle, Chief Financial Directorate “Max Weinberg: Monumente und Meilensteine eines Künstlerlebens” (Max Weinberg: Monuments and Milestones of the life of an Artist), Frankfurt, Germany

Under the Patronage of Jürgen Roßbeg, Chief Financial Officer



## **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 1959 Artist House (Beit Hemlin) The Israel Painters & Sculptors Association "Exhibition Young Artists" – Tel Aviv/ Israel
- 1965 "Lithography", Frankfurt, Germany
- 1970 Frankfurt Art Association "Paintings", Frankfurt, Germany
- 1972 Bodega Picasso "Lithography", Barcelona, Spain
- 1974 Gallery Christa Möring "Lithography", Wiesbaden, Germany
- 1974 Frankfurt Art Association "Paintings", Frankfurt, Germany
- 1979 Church of St. Paul "Künstler in Hessen" (Artists in Essen), Frankfurt, Germany
- 1980 Church of St. Paul "Internationalen Malerei und Zeichnungen" (International Paintings and Drawings), Frankfurt, Germany
- 1982 Congress Hall Tel Aviv "Frankfurter Künstler und Malerei" (Frankfurt Artists and Paintings), Tel Aviv, Israel
- 1982 BBK Hessen "Krieg & Frieden" (War and Peace)", Kassel and Frankfurt, Germany  
Publication of a Catalogue
- 1984 "Künstler in Hessen stellen in Eriwan, Sowjetunion aus" (Artists in Hessen- Made in Yerevan, Soviet Union out", Frankfurt, Germany
- 1999 German Chamber of Commerce of Frankfurt "Zweihundert Jahre Goethe" (Two Hundred Years Goethe", Frankfurt, Germany
- 2000 Sapporo International Print Biennale Exhibition, Sapporo, Japan  
Publication of a Catalogue
- 2000 "Skulpturen zur Expo 2000. 99 Standpunkte" (Sculptures to Expo 2000. 99 Standpoints", Hannover, Germany
- 2002 Berliner Art Project "Augen – Blick" (Eyes – Look), Berlin, Germany
- 2002 "Sculptures in Park", Buchet Eifel, Germany
- 2003 Zauberberg, Kelkheim, Germany
- 2003 Monastery Press, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2004 International Fair "19 Show of Spring 2000" at the Lätzebuerger Artists Center, Kirchberg, Luxemburg  
Publication of a Catalogue
- 2004 Art Association Family Montez "Künstler für Kinderrechte" (Art for Kinder Rights), Frankfurt, Germany



2004 DGB House, Bad Homburg, Germany

2006 Nunu-Kunst Haus, "Gruppenausstellung" (Group Exhibition), Sachsenhausen ,Frankfurt, Germany

2007 State Museum of St. Petersburg "Künstlerhaus Weinberg und Co." (Art House Weinberg & Co.),  
St. Petersburg, Russia

Supported by the Ministry of Science and Art of Hessen, the Ministry of Culture of Frankfurt, the  
German Federal Foreign Office, the Jewish Community of Frankfurt, the Josef Buchmann

Real Estate company, Michael Kroll, B`Nai Brith

Publication of a Catalogue

2007 Ward Nasse Gallery "Paintings Made in Frankfurt am Main – Max Weinberg with Costa  
Bernstein", New York, USA

2007 Jewish Culture Week in the Jewish Community Center, Frankfurt, Germany

2007 Zauberberg "Erotik in der Kunst" (Erotism in Art), Kelkheim, Germany

2009 House of the History of the City "Gegenwelten" (Opposite worlds), Max Weinberg with Costa  
Bernstein and Martin Hakan Weigl, Offenbach am Main, Germany.

2009 Haussenstamm-Gallery, Museum shore Frankfurt, "Hot or not" Max Weinberg with Costa  
Bernstein, Frankfurt, Germany

2010 Municipal Atelier Haus "Eklektik-Atelierfest in der Ostparkstraße 47-49" (Eclectic– Atelierfest in  
Ostparkstrasse 47-49), Frankfurt, Germany

2010 Gallus Theater "Kunst + Theater" (Art+Theatre) – Frankfurt am Main

2011 Raum für Kunst, "Double Trouble", with Jordan K. Artmaster, Frankfurt, Germany

2013 Kunst Werk Ost, "Movimet", Frankfurt, Germany

2014 Schwalbe 54 "Double Trouble", Max Weinberg, Jordan K. Artmaster, Frankfurt, Germany

2014 Kaiser & Cream Art District "Kunst: Überirdisch" (Art: Extra-terrestrial), Max Weinberg with Jordan  
K. Artmaster, Wiesbaden, Germany

2014 Gallery Ira Kitzk "Drei Welten Kunst" (Three Worlds of Art) Max Weinberg, Shagané Nersesian,  
Niklas Fiedler, Frankfurt, Germany

2014 Gallery Liberamente "O-face", Max Weinberg with Jordan K. Artmaster, Königstein, Germany

2014 Art Association Familie Montez "Die Neugier der Kinder zu entdecken, mit erwachsener Disziplin"  
(The Curiosity of the Children to discover with adult Discipline), Max Weinberg with Elizabeth  
Dorazio, Frankfurt, Germany

2015 Atelier Correia "Für eure blaue Tapeten" (For your blue carpets), Frankfurt, Germany

2016 KW46, "Klange, Kunst, Kultur" (Sound, Art, Culture)", Bad Nauheim, Germany





2017 Art Association Bad Nauheim “Hinter Spiegeln” (Behind the Mirror), Max Weinberg, Bertram  
Schüler, Bad Nauheim, Germany  
Under the Patronage of the Magistrate of the State Bad Nauheim, Germany

**Travelling Exhibition “Die Vernichtung der Juden – eine Auseinandersetzung” (The Destruction  
of the Jews – a Confrontation), in collaboration with Barbara Greul Aschanta**

1987 Börne Platz “Stationen des Vergessens eine Stellungnahme zum Börneplatzkonflikt” (Stations of the  
Forgotten, a close to position of the Conflict of the Börne Place), Frankfurt, Germany

1990 Succession of the Church of Christ, Bonn, Germany

1990 Art Association, Bad Hersfeld, Germany

1990 Samaritann Church, Berlin, Germany

1990-1991 Memorial Buchenwald, Weimar, Germany

1991 Cross Church, Dresden, Germany

1992 Art Hall, Siegen, Germany

1995 Mahn and Memorial, Düsseldorf, Germany

1995-1996 Börne Gallery in the Museum of the Judengasse – Frankfurt

Adress: Georg Heuberger, Jewish Museum/Dr. Klaus Klemp, Ministry for  
Science and Art / Dr. Annette Baumeister, State Museum Düsseldorf

Publication of a Catalogue

1997 Evangelic Church, City Aachen, Germany

1998 The New Town Hall, Leipzig, Germany

2001 State Theatre, Darmstadt, Germany

2002 Ésch Theatre Gallery, Ésch, Luxemburg

Under the Patronage of the Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research of Luxemburg  
Supported by the Jewish Community of Ésch-sur-Alzette, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany,  
Heinrich Böll Foundation Berlin, Ministry for Science and Art of Frankfurt, Jewish Community of  
Frankfurt, Sparkassen and Giroverband Berlin.

2005 Hessen Ministry for Science and Art, Wiesbaden, Germany

Under the Patronage of Udo Corts, Hessen Minister for Science and Art

2007 Museum Old Town Hall, Langen, Germany

2008 Sankt-Martins-Church, Kassel, Germany

Introduction: Dr. Eva Schulz-Jander, Chairman of the Society for Christian-Jewish Collaboration of



Kassel

Address of Ester Hass, Chairman of the Jewish Community of Kassel and Mayor Thomas-Erik Junge.