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All you need to experience the best of Germany

HIGHLIGHTS

1 BERLIN ART SCENE



BY MIRIAM BERS, ART HISTORIAN AND CO-OWNER GO-ART! TOURS AND CONSULTING

Berlin is *the* place for contemporary art. Some 10,000 artists live here and there are over 600 galleries – more than in New York City. Many collectors have moved here and the entire art world gets together for events like the Berlin Biennale. It's an inspiring, constantly evolving city; and it's still cheap: artists can afford to have an apartment *and* a studio.

➤ MIRIAM BERS' DON'T MISS LIST

1 GALLERY QUARTER SCHEUNENVIERTEL

Mitte's Auguststrasse and Linienstrasse were the birthplaces of Berlin's post-Wall contemporary art scene. Some have since moved on to bigger digs, but key players **Eigen+Art** (www.eigenart.de; Auguststrasse 26) and **Neugerriemschneider** (www.neugerriemschneider.com; Linienstrasse 155) are still there, alongside exciting new galleries like **Kunstagenten** (www.kunstagenten.de; Linienstrasse 155) and the innovative **DNA Galerie** (www.dna-galerie.de; Auguststrasse 20).



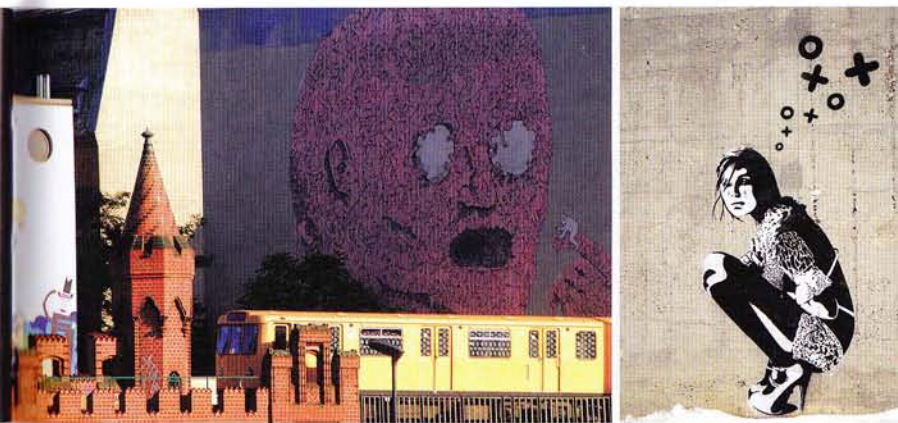
2 GALLERY QUARTER SCHÖNEBERG

Over the past three years, the slightly seedy area around Potsdamer Strasse and Kurfürstenstrasse has emerged as one of Berlin's most exciting art quarters. It's a great mix of established galleries like **Giti Nourbakhsh** (www.nourbakhsh.de; Kurfürstenstrasse 12), which focuses on installations, and newcomers like **Sommer + Kohl** (www.sommerkohl.com; Kurfürstenstrasse 13/14), which specialises in sculpture.



Clockwise from top: Murals and street art in Berlin; Piece by X0000X at Sammlung Boros; Sammlung Boros is housed in a WWII bunker; Eigen+Art, Scheunenviertel

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: DAVID PEVERS, DAVID PEVERS, DAVID PEVERS, UWE WALTER



3 GALLERY QUARTER CHECKPOINT CHARLIE

There's long been a cluster of important galleries on Zimmerstrasse and Rudi-Dutschke-Strasse in Kreuzberg, but of late a new corner has opened up on Markgrafenstrasse and Charlottenstrasse. Keep an eye out for **Carlier Gebauer** (www.carliergebauer.com; Markgrafenstrasse 67), **Barbara Weiss Galerie** (www.galeriebarbaraweiss.de; Zimmerstrasse 88) and **Antje Wachs Galerie** (www.antjewachs.de; Charlottenstrasse 3).

4 STREET ART

Berlin has some of the best street art anywhere. There's fantastic work in Kreuzberg, especially the large-scale works by Italian artist Blu at

Falckenstrasse 48 and at the corner of Cuvrystrasse and Schlesische Strasse. **Boxhagener Platz** in Friedrichshain is another hot spot, as is **Brauerei Friedrichshöhe** at Landsberger Allee 54, also in Friedrichshain. **ATM Galerie** (www.atmberlin.de; Brunnenstrasse 24, Mitte) also focuses on street art.

5 SAMMLUNG BOROS

This is a great **collection** (www.sammlung-boros.de; Reinhardstrasse 20, Mitte) in a spectacular location – an old WWII bunker! What makes it special is how the space has been adapted for art and also how the artists have reacted to the space. There's one artist who's created a series of works that correspond with one another across several floors, opening up constantly changing perspectives.

➤ THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

GoArt! (www.goart-berlin.de) specialises in art and fashion tours, consulting and studio visits. **Gallery hopping** Gallery Weekend (www.gallery-weekend-berlin.de; May) is a great time to visit Berlin. **Festival Urban Affairs** (www.urbanaffairs.de; July/August) is an international street-art festival.