

Art

Notes on Berlin Gallery Weekend 2022

4 May, 2022

Handwritten notes are magical. Whether a love letter or a scribble made during a Zoom call, in a world where even paintings are digitally created, handwriting seems enchantingly nostalgic. A similar kind of nostalgia besieged the 18th edition of Berlin Gallery Weekend. After two years of soft openings and a more or less no (official) party policy, the art fuelled weekend with more than 50 participating galleries and numerous additional events was back, aiming to tie on the years before Covid.

During the car ride to KW Institute for Contemporary Art, where the design duo BLESS placed a 90s Mercedes-Benz that was transformed into a sauna in the museum's yard, a gallery director and I analyse people's outfits from last night's dinner at Neue Nationalgalerie. While speaking on a broader and more theoretical level, it is certainly true that fashion needs art more than art needs fashion; however, when considering the many people who have been wearing the same look throughout their 30-year long careers, the opposite might sometimes be as true. It at least shows that operating at the intersection of both realms more profoundly would benefit the two. Sterling Ruby could be seen as one representative of this idea. Having his own fashion collection, the artist opened a solo exhibition at Sprüth Magers, displaying colossal textile and ceramic works. As fashion is often criticised for its hyper-commerciality, Ruby appears to have incorporated this critique in a non-critical way.





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Mercedes-Bez sauna by BLESS in collaboration with Sam Chermayeff Office at KW. Image Courtesy of KW Institute for Contemporary Art.



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