



Tchoban Foundation
Museum für
Architekturzeichnung

Press Release

Berlin, 05.09.2025

Ingeborg Kuhler – Poems of Spaces and Colours

Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Christinenstraße 18a, 10119 Berlin

Press tour: 30 September 2025, 6 pm

Panel discussion: 30 September 2025, 4 pm
Aedes, Christinenstr. 18–19, 10119 Berlin
with Jan Kleihues, Heike Hanada, Ingeborg Kuhler und Sergei Tchoban

Exhibition opening: 30 September 2025, 7 pm

Rooms that resonate, colours that breathe – the exhibition presents a multifaceted chapter of Ingeborg Kuhler's oeuvre bringing together travel sketches, watercolours and technical drawings to create a dialogue that renders architecture tangible as visual poetry.

Ingeborg Kuhler (born 1943) is one of Germany's most important post-war architects. Her buildings are marked by a clear, poetic design language that understands architecture as a synthesis of space, light and material.

The exhibition is dedicated not only to Kuhler's architectural work, but also to her drawings and paintings – an equally significant part of her oeuvre. Her design drawings and collages are graphic explorations of spatial ideas, possessing an almost meditative clarity and often interspersed with colourful accents. In them, thoughts condense into spatial compositions that are as rational as they are poetic. Her free-style paintings reveal another dimension of her work: here space is not constructed but felt, sensed, opened to free association. Kuhler's formal language is calm, sometimes austere, but always human.



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The first exhibition room presents the architect's artistic work; the second is dedicated to her most renowned project: the Museum of Work and Technology (now Technoseum) and the Süddeutscher Rundfunk studios (SWR Office until 2024) in Mannheim. In 1982, the young architect won the open competition for the project, beating renowned male competitors such as Gustav Peichl and Günter Behnisch. Two years later, Kuhler became the first professor of design and experimental design in West Germany when she was appointed to the Berlin Academy of the Arts (today the Berlin University of the Arts).

The exhibition invites visitors to discover Kuhler as a pioneer who crossed the boundaries between architecture and visual art. This artistic approach is evident in her drawings, collages and paintings; it explores order and freedom, structure and emotion –the tension between these opposing forces that gives rise to true creativity.

Poems of Spaces and Colours is a tribute to an architect whose quiet determination enabled her to create spaces that had an impact – and a lasting effect. The exhibition also aims to encourage the rediscovery and re-evaluation of a pioneer in the history of female architecture. The show is accompanied by Ivan Némec's artistic photographs of the building of the Museum of Work and Technology and the studio of Süddeutsche Rundfunk in Mannheim.

A catalogue will be published to accompany the exhibition, which was curated by Nadejda Bartels.

Tchoban Foundation. Museum of Architectural Drawing

The Tchoban Foundation's Museum of Architectural Drawing was established in 2013 on the site of the former Pfefferberg brewery. In 2009, the architect and collector Sergei Tchoban founded the foundation with the aim of promoting the art of architectural drawing. The museum hosts three exhibitions a year, featuring works from its own holdings and loans from the collections of renowned museums such as Sir John Soane's Museum in London, the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, the Albertina in Vienna, the German Architecture Museum in Frankfurt am Main, the Architecture Museum of the Technical University of Berlin, the Berlin Art Library, and private collections.



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Illustrations



Mies van der Rohe with Bowler Hat and Tulips
2021
Watercolour on paper
61 x 92 cm
Loan of the artist



On the Quay of Siracusa
2007
Watercolour on paper
36 x 51 cm
Loan of the artist



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February Morning
2011
Collage
46 x 46 cm
Loan of the artist



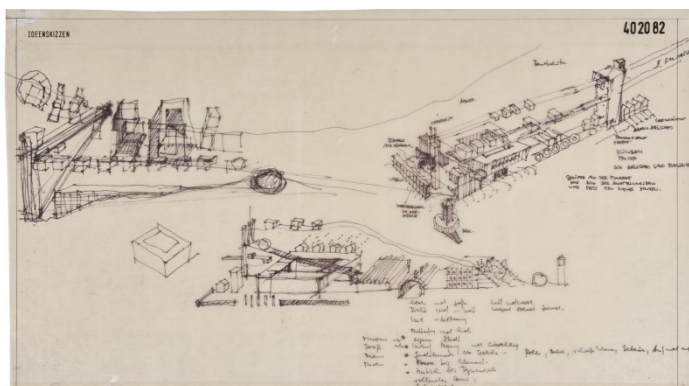
San Lorenzo in Genoa
2008
Watercolour on paper
15 x 21 cm
Loan of the artist



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Bungalow Famara, Lanzarote
2022
Watercolour on paper
10,5 x 15 cm
Loan of the artist



Sketches for the competition project for the State Museum of Work and Technology
(now Technoseum)
Copy of an ink drawing on tracing paper
On loan from the German Architecture Museum (DAM), Frankfurt am Main
Inv.-No. 886-006-019_1



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Entrance hall of the studio building of Süddeutscher Rundfunk (now SWR) in Mannheim, located in front of the Museum of Work and Technology.
Collage made from various papers.
On loan from the German Architecture Museum (DAM), Frankfurt am Main.
40 x 62 cm

Image credits for the works by Ingeborg Kuhler: © Ingeborg Kuhler



View from the West, entrance to the Museum and studio building
Photo: © Ivan Němec



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Ramp in Bridge Construction

Photo: © Ivan Němec

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North View with Park

Photo: © Ivan Němec

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