



EWALD PLATTE 1894 - 1985

Born 9th October 1894 at Untergarschagen near Remscheid - Lüttringhausen (in North Rhine-Westphalia/Germany). His parents were ribbon weavers and ran a small farm. Went to school at Obergarschagen. His teacher was Mr. Haarmann.

- 1909-1913 went to the arts and crafts school in Wuppertal-Barmen (in North Rhine-Westphalia). His teachers were Ludwig Fahrenkrog and Gustav Wiethüchter who instructed the students in the modernity.
- Since 1913 his talents were intensively advanced by Dr. Richard Reiche, curator of the art society in Barmen, member of the executive board and a firm promoter of the contemporary modernity.
- 1916: studio in the Hall of Fame
- 1917-1918: combatant in Riga in a volunteer corps
- 1920: he returned to Lüttringhausen. Member of the "Young Rhineland"
- 1922: expositions in Düsseldorf and Wiesbaden with Emil Nolde and Alexej Jawlensky, married Elisabeth Berg from Elberfeld (Wuppertal), his daughter Ursula was born in 1922, his son Wolfgang in 1925.
- 1927: international breakthrough: participation in the "European Modernists", touring exhibition in the USA with works of Jawlensky, Feininger, Kirchner, Klee, Nolde, Picasso and Matisse
- 1928-32 "Wupper-Circle", member of the board of the Rhinish Secession
- 1937/38 the Nazis stigmatized him as a degenerate artist. His pictures were removed from the public as well as from the museum of Wuppertal.
- 30 May 1943: he lost his complete works and his flat in Wuppertal-Barmen by an air-raid
- Since 1943 he lived in Süppelbach near Wermelskirchen (in North Rhine-Westphalia/Germany),
- Since 1961 in Opladen (in NRW).
- He died on 27 December 1985 and was a well-known painter in the region.

Nicole Netuschil in Wermelskirchen possess the greatest private collection, looks after the posthumous works and is the initiator of numerous exhibitions:

- the "Tokyo Art Expo" in Tokio 1992
- a retrospect on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birthday at the "Von der Heydt - Museum" in Wuppertal 1994 - with an extensive catalogue
- 1995 "Museum Castle Morsbroich" in Leverkusen
- 1997 "Armory" in New York
- Spring 2004: at the "Historical Museum on the Rhine" Hildegard von Bingen in Bingen (on the Rhine) Catalogue included
- 2006 a retrospect on the occasion of his 20th day of death in the "Städtische Gallery" in Remscheid - with an extensive catalogue
- 2008 "Museum Baden" in Solingen
- 2010 Private Museum Art Trove Singapur - catalogue included



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The brilliant colours and the touching expression of his faces, his atmospheric, expressive landscapes and his late filigree pyrographic collages make Ewald Platte's pictures a fascinating art of representation between expressionism and abstraction.

Born in Remscheid (North Rhine-Westphalia/Germany) in 1894 his friends being fascinated about the poetic diction of the expressionism were members of the Barmer "Wupper-Circle" (in Wuppertal) where a group of artists met in the twentieth. They were young former students of the Barmer arts and crafts school. Advanced by the curator of the Barmer art society Dr. Richard Reiche they made the acquaintance of the "Young Rhineland". Ewald Platte was one of the most known of them. He belonged to the co-founders of the "Rhenish Secession".

In 1921 Alexej Jawlensky made the young painter's acquaintance at his exposition in Barmen. Platte's pictures were shown – with the help of Jawlensky's friend and promoter Galka Scheyer – at a touring exposition in the USA in Los Angeles and in Pasadena (Oakland) together with the works of Picasso, Matisse, Jawlensky, Kandinsky and Nolde.

It was disastrous the young, international well-known artist and his development that his pictures were degraded as "degenerate" by the Nazis and thus were expelled from public collections and he was completely deprived of the public as well as many other representatives of the modernity.

The air-raid on Barmen in 1943 destroyed his total work in his house in Wuppertal.

Shortly after the painter moved to Wermelskirchen (north of Cologne) with his family where he lived in poverty and seclusion. In those years he developed his overwhelming brilliant late work in a wax-mix technique.

At that time Nicole Netuschil made his acquaintance she became his student and it began a friendship for some decades until his death. She has looked after his works since 1985.

She showed his works at international fairs in Tokio and New York.

In 1994 the "Von der Heydt-Museum" Wuppertal showed a large retrospective of E.P.'s work.

An amply illustrated catalogue was edited.

In 1995 the "Museum Castle Morsbroich" in Leverkusen (North Rhine-Westphalia/Germany) exposed his works, so did the "Historical Museum" on the Rhine – Hildegard von Bingen.

In 2006 Ewald Platte has returned to his home town with a large exposition. The gallery of Remscheid and "Pro Arte" made a great exhibition, also in 2008 the "Museum Baden" Solingen.

Gisela Schmoeckel