

PRESS RELEASE
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Mythos Europa
ANTOINETTE

In the Mythos Europa exhibition Museum Montanelli is presenting the extraordinary work of the German painter ANTOINETTE.

Passion, mysterious figures, fabled beasts and enigmatic symbols from European mythology fill the spaces of the museum. You will see masterful oil paintings, drawings and objects. For 30 years now ANTOINETTE has been pursuing the legend of the Phoenician princess Europa, who was abducted by Zeus, the ruler of the gods, appearing in the form of a bull. With Europa on his back he crossed the sea to the island of Crete, where, according to the legend, he begat three children with her. Europa thus became the founder of the Cretan royal line and her name has been adopted as the appellation of the entire continent. It is worth mentioning the painting entitled Lady on the Bull ("Dame auf dem Stier") which dates from the beginning of the 1980s. Initially it dealt with the coming to terms with the role of the female figure, its identity and the relationship between the sexes. Again and again creative thoughts circled around this motif. Gradually other themes have evolved: they address the creation of and holding onto power, the common archaic roots of mythology, the identity of today's Europe. The symbolic visual puzzles are becoming ever more interconnected to current political developments of the continent, to the uniting as well as the loosening of the political unit. On these occasions ANTOINETTE will subtly point to our common history and the roots of European culture and its system of values.

Dadja Altenburg-Kohl
Curator of Exhibition

Museum Montanelli, MuMo
16. 3. 2018 – 30. 6. 2018

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