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Potsdam, April 26, 2018

**Accompanying program to the exhibition *Max Beckmann. World Theater***

**Talks, lectures, themed tours, films and actions make the cosmos Beckmann and its topicality tangible**

For Max Beckmann, the world of variety and fairground artists, acrobats, clowns and actors was a metaphor for human relations and world affairs. Until June 10, 2018, the Museum Barberini will be showing "Max Beckmann. Welttheater" "is still the first exhibition on this central theme in the work of the painter, which is of the utmost topicality in view of the current media development. An extensive accompanying program with lectures, talks, theme and children tours, films and actions conveys Beckmann's idea of the world as a stage and makes it tangible in a challenging and playful way.

Jo Schück, moderator of the ZDF cultural magazine Aspects, will be inviting actress and director Feo Aladag ("The Stranger"), politician Cem Özdemir, actor Ulrich Matthes and social psychologist Harald Welzer to the Barberini Museum on 30 May. His topic is "The World as a Stage". How up-to-date is Beckmann's metaphor of world theater in view of the rapid developments in the media world, which often make world events appear as a spectacle? Are we currently experiencing tragedy, comedy or real satire?

Theater-maker Thomas Oberender, director of the Berliner Festspiele, is interested in Beckmann's specific way of staging his characters in the picture. In his lecture on May 17, he reflects on the extent to which theater metaphor in the medium of painting corresponds to the development of modern theater.

A wide range of many events - from themed tours to film program in the Filmmuseum Potsdam to yoga and meditation in the museum, children's tours and acrobatics in the exhibition round off the accompanying program in May and June and underline the ambition of the Museum Barberini to experience the cosmos Beckmann for everyone and in a new way.

**Press contact:**

Achim Klapp, Marte Kräher  
Museum Barberini  
Humboldtstr. 5-6, 14467 Potsdam, Germany  
T +49 331 236014 305/308  
presse@museum-barberini.com  
www.museum-barberini.com