



---MEDIA ADVISORY---

Dissident Artists from Former East Germany Gather in Chicago for Exhibition Opening

Reception February 3rd kicks off final leg of Breakthrough Art Organization's national arts and education program marking the 20th anniversary of German reunification

WHAT: Breakthrough Art Organization will host the Chicago Opening Reception of [Breakthrough! Twenty Years After German Unification: Critical Perspectives of Berlin Artists](#) at 515 N. State St on February 3rd.

WHEN: Thursday, February 3
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: 515 N. State St.
Chicago, IL 60654

Six of the artists will be in attendance, along with Jeff Thinnies, founder of the DC-based nonprofit Breakthrough Art Organization. More details are available [here](#).

The exhibition showcases the work of 10 visual artists from former East Germany who endured repression, exile and even imprisonment for the sake of free expression prior to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and subsequent unification of Germany in 1990. Chicago, the U.S. city with the largest German-American population, is the fifth and final stop on a 5-city U.S. tour that included Nashville, Aspen, Washington D.C., and San Antonio. The exhibition is free and open to the public from February 4 - April 7, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDITIONALLY, local Chicago artists are invited to meet personally with the Berlin artists at the exhibition venue for an artist-to-artist exchange and walk-through on Saturday, February 5th from 5:30—7:00 p.m.

THE MEDIA IS INVITED TO ATTEND BOTH EVENTS.

[Breakthrough Art Organization](#) promotes and supports the work of artists worldwide who use art as a means to overcome political, social and personal challenges.

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