









Images and Imagination of Impairment and Disability in the "Hans-Würtz-Collection"

The value of the largely unknown Würtz Collection isn't in its monetary worth or the rarity of its contents. It lies in its scope, its curatorial vision, and its cultural significance. This is an unparalleled survey of disabled people across different eras and societies and strata, depicted in ways that are sometimes faithful, sometimes exaggerated, sometimes authentic, sometimes stereotypical. No one—before or since—has created such a comprehensive visual study of disability. Whether his images were original or reproduced, Würtz's work aimed to shift the conversation from a medicalised view of impairment to a cultural one. In this, he and his collaborators, including his wife Rosalie, remain a true inspiration.

Please see www.imagesofdisability.org

Projektteam:

Großbritannien: Co-PI Prof. Dr. Simon Mckeown, Karolina Hyży, Andrew Breckill, Dr. Paul Darke, Aaron Wardle - Deutschland: Co-PI Prof. Dr. Oliver Musenberg, Dr. Sebastian Pampuch, Alice Schirmer (Studentische Hilfskraft), Anna Küntzle - Tschechische Republik: Petr Kolář, Mgr. Šimon Krýsl, PhDr. Veronika Löblová, Ondřej Horsák, PhDr. Helena Bouzková









Our project digitised over 3000 2D and 3D items. We analysed the Collection and found that it was originally comprised of over 7000 items collected between 1910 and 1932 in Berlin during a period of rising nationalism and ableism.

The Future:

- Development of more exhibitions in the UK, Germany, Czech Republic and the USA
- Public release of our database via new grant funding
- Contextualisation with other museum collections
- Release of our creative anthology
- Podcasts, documentary, website
- And much more

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