

OTTO
MEETS
ALBERTINA

25⁰ ALBERTINA

Details about the artistic intervention

Duration	3.6.2026 – 10.1.2027
Opening	2.6.2026 18.30 p.m.
Venue	Habsburg State Rooms The ALBERTINA Museum
Curator	Ralph Gleis
Exhibits	12 works by Otto Waalkes, 12 facsimiles of works from the ALBERTINA's graphic arts collection
Catalogue	Available at the shop of The ALBERTINA Museum as well as at https://shop.albertina.at/ <i>OTTO Meets ALBERTINA</i> , Eds.: Ralph Gleis and Otto Waalkes, 2026, 72 pages, bilingual German/English, portrait format, hardcover, ISBN: 978-3-9505999-2-3, publisher ALBERTINA, 29,90€ With texts by Bernd Eilert and a conversation between Otto Waalkes and Ralph Gleis
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Opening Hours	Daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
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He is one of the most well-known comedy legends in the German-speaking world: Otto Waalkes. And he has played this role for a while. Generations have laughed about his wordplay and parodies. His films, his television appearances, his songs, and his verses have become an integral part of pop culture.

His artistic ambitions are less known. As a painter, he has made his iconic character, the Ottifant, roam art history. During his time in an artists' housing co-op with Udo Lindenberg, Marius Müller-Westernhagen, and others, OTTO was a student at the University of Fine Arts in Hamburg. The ALBERTINA Museum and its collection have always fascinated him: on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of its founding, the museum has asked him to revisit and comment upon selected masterpieces from the Graphic Art Collection—for which he naturally pursues a tongue-in-cheek approach.

With an intervention in the Habsburg State Rooms, Otto Waalkes thus encounters famous masterpieces owned by the ALBERTINA Museum—in a dialogue of a distinctly extra-Frisian nature. Parodic appropriation as the sincerest form of homage.