

No. 6 / Cologne, 30.03.2026

United in art: Koelnmesse's new format in Palma builds on strong local partnerships

United in art: Koelnmesse's new format in Palma builds on strong local partnerships

- With ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA, Koelnmesse brings a spring edition of its renowned art fair to the Mediterranean
- Premiere from 9 to 12 April 2026 at the Palau de Congressos in Palma
- At a press conference held at the Gothic Llotja - one of the most important maritime trading exchanges in the Mediterranean - Marga Prohens, President of the Balearic Islands, and Gerald Böse, CEO of Koelnmesse, presented initial details today

Founded in 1967 in Cologne, ART COLOGNE is regarded as the world's first fair for modern and contemporary art and has, for decades, been a central meeting point for the international art world. The fair is now expanding its portfolio beyond Germany's borders and launching a new format in the Balearic Islands: ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA. As early as next week, from 9 to 12 April 2026, the event will bring together a carefully curated selection of leading national and international galleries at the Palau de Congressos in Palma. ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA complements the long-established autumn edition in Cologne with an exclusive annual gathering in southern Europe, responding to the growing regional and international interest in high-calibre art events on the island.

"It is a great pleasure to see the long-established ART COLOGNE establish a second home in Palma," says Gerald Böse, CEO of Koelnmesse. "My special thanks go to the President of the Balearic Islands, Marga Prohens, the island government, the representatives of the city of Palma, and the gallery association Art Palma Contemporani. This remarkable event in one of the Mediterranean's most important cultural centres has been made possible by the strong joint commitment of all partners involved."

"With ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA, the Balearic Islands are moving to the forefront of the international art scene," says Marga Prohens, President of the Balearic Government, also highlighting the government's commitment to strengthening the link between culture and tourism. "With this fair, Mallorca is not only exporting talent but is also evolving into an international meeting point where some of the world's most renowned galleries come together with our vibrant local art scene."

Strong partnership between Cologne and Palma

"The impetus for this fair originated in the Balearic Islands and was made possible

Your contact:

Mirko Hackmann

Tel.

+49 221 821-2894

e-mail

m.hackmann@koelnmesse.

de

Koelnmesse GmbH

Messeplatz 1

50679 Köln

P.O. Box 21 07 60

50532 Köln

Germany

Tel. +49 221 821-0

Fax +49 221 821-2574

www.koelnmesse.com

Executive Board:

Gerald Böse (President and Chief

Executive Officer)

Oliver Frese

Chairman of the Supervisory
Board:

Mayor of the City of Cologne

Torsten Burmester

Headquarters and place of
jurisdiction:

Cologne

District Court Cologne, HRB 952

through a joint initiative of public institutions and partners, which Koelnmesse was very pleased to support,” says Böse. ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA is primarily supported by the Government of the Balearic Islands, the Consell de Mallorca, the city of Palma, and the gallery sector, represented by the Art Palma Contemporani association. This collaboration demonstrates the potential that emerges when a globally recognised major fair, public institutions, and the local art scene work together towards a shared vision.

Gerald Böse added that the expansion of such an established format abroad is driven by the conviction that each fair has the potential to bring together people and their visions from around the world in one place. “This is precisely the potential we see in ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA.”

ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA exemplifies some of Koelnmesse’s key strengths: leading trade fairs that continue to grow and bring together industries from around the world - from Cologne to the global stage.

As a historic site of trade, exchange, and international connections, the Llotja de Palma provided a fitting symbolic setting for today’s press conference. The Gothic maritime exchange celebrates its 600th anniversary this year. Built in the 15th century for Mallorca’s merchants’ guild, it now serves as a cultural and exhibition venue in the heart of Palma’s old town.

Broad spectrum of modern and contemporary art

ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA positions itself as a pan-European art fair with an international focus, deliberately scheduled outside the peak tourist season to create optimal conditions for meaningful encounters between galleries, artists, collectors, and the interested public. The fair aims to establish itself as a new fixture in the European art calendar and promises to enrich both the island’s art scene and the international art world.

A total of 88 galleries from 20 countries will be represented, including both established international positions and young, experimental programmes. Particular emphasis is placed on the integration of Mallorcan galleries. Daniel Hug, Artistic Director of ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA, explains: “An art fair must always reflect the place in which it is held. Mallorca and the Balearic Islands, also through their collaboration with the gallery association Art Palma Contemporani, are not merely a backdrop but an active cultural reference point for the event.”

The fair concept is divided into different sectors tailored to the architectural features of the Palau de Congressos: the GRAN SALÓ sector offers generous space for larger presentations, while the PARKOUR sector opens up new perspectives with compact, experimental formats. This structure enables a wide range of art - from contemporary positions and established movements of modernism to more current, radical approaches.

Magnet for the international art world

“With its vibrant art and cultural scene and excellent accessibility, Mallorca has for years attracted a great many collectors and artists from across Europe and overseas,” says Hug, adding that the island has thus developed into an important centre for contemporary art and offers ideal conditions for an international fair that will further strengthen the position of the Balearic Islands in the global art world.

The Palau de Congressos, with 2,300 square metres of exhibition space across several levels, provides ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA with an exclusive Mediterranean setting thanks to its location in the Bay of Palma and its proximity to the cathedral and old town. It offers an ideal environment for encounters, exchange, and the enjoyment of art. Hug adds: “ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA is explicitly aimed at a broad audience: connoisseurs are just as welcome as those who wish to engage more deeply with contemporary art for the first time.”

Further information and tickets: artcologne.com/palma

Image material from today’s press conference, the Palau de Congressos exhibition venue, the artworks of ART COLOGNE PALMA MALLORCA, as well as from the most recent ART COLOGNE in Cologne, can be found via the following links:

Press conference Palma

Please note: current images will be uploaded under the following link starting at 3 p.m.

[https://my.hidrive.com/share/i9.3zf92n8#\\$/](https://my.hidrive.com/share/i9.3zf92n8#$/)

A look inside the Mallorcan congress centre

https://koelnmesse.omn-cloud.com/showLinkedImagesEN.jsp?keywordPath=/ISY3/Shop/Presse_Mitteilungen/20260330_Art_Palma_Kongresszentrum&cms=neu

Artworks Art Palma 2026

https://koelnmesse.omn-cloud.com/showLinkedImagesEN.jsp?keywordPath=/ISY3/Shop/Presse_Mitteilungen/20260330_Art_Palma&cms=neu

Artworks Art Cologne 2025

https://koelnmesse.omn-cloud.com/showLinkedImagesEN.jsp?keywordPath=/ISY3/Shop/Presse_Mitteilungen/20260330_Art_Cologne&cms=neu

About Koelnmesse:

Koelnmesse employs around 1,200 people. As a city-based trade fair in the heart of Europe, it operates the third-largest trade fair grounds in Germany and, with almost 400,000 square metres of hall and outdoor space, ranks among the ten largest trade fair grounds in the world. Each year, Koelnmesse organises and manages around 80 trade fairs, guest events and corporate events in Cologne and in key markets all over the globe. Its portfolio reaches over 49,000 exhibiting companies from 129 countries and around 2.5 million visitors from around 200 nations. Until 2040, Koelnmesse is investing more than one billion euro in the development of the trade fair grounds with the most extensive investment programme in its history, enabling

it to accommodate all future event formats. In 2024, Koelnmesse celebrated its 100th anniversary - a century of bringing people and markets together worldwide.

Page
4/4

Photo material for media representatives:

[Image database | Koelnmesse](#)

Follow our English social media channel:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/koelnmesse-gmbh>