



22

22–25

## Change of art

*Berlin's galleries are finding new ways to create innovative art*

PHOTOGRAPHY: NOSHE

The near collapse of the contemporary art market has meant considerably fewer buyers negotiating Berlin's gallery scene. But while many of the bigger outposts have quietly shut up shop, among some of the younger art workers there is a positive sense of reappraisal. The feeling is that the city should get back to the crucial business of making art, rather than marketing it. To this end – and in the DIY fashion that the German capital is celebrated for – many emerging gallerists are developing new economic models. Whether that means running a summer camp for budding, young artists or converting a forgotten bar into a nightly performance space, these are enterprises that transform a basic need – surviving in tough economic times – into something altogether more brilliant and exciting.

### 22 – EXILE, KREUZBERG

Gallerist Christian Siekmeier's (pictured) Summer Camp programme offers up-and-coming artists the chance to create and present site-specific work at his Kreuzberg gallery. 'The challenge is to make the process more accessible while maintaining a high quality,' explains Siekmeier. [www.thisisexile.com](http://www.thisisexile.com)

### 23 – DADA POST, REINICKENDORF

Located in a former fish factory, the Dada Post gallery is the visionary creation of American artist Howard McCalebb. Alongside the gallery, he has managed to fit in a beer garden, a bar, artist residences and studios, as well as a performance stage housed in a disused bomb shelter. [www.dadapost.com](http://www.dadapost.com)

### 24 – RISE BERLIN, NEUKÖLLN

Founded in 2007, this gallery is funded by a silk-screen workshop located upstairs. Ongoing printing projects allow artists to experiment with their ideas, producing work which can then be sold to help fund and promote the gallery. Run on a not-for-profit basis, the entire project is a labour of love. [www.riseberlin.com](http://www.riseberlin.com)

### 25 – FORGOTTEN BAR PROJECT

As its name implies, this bar-cum-gallery can be hard to track down. Originally located in Berlin Mitte, it then popped up in Kreuzberg before heading off to Switzerland and Chelsea, New York, where it was located in a lift. Quite where it will turn up next is anyone's guess. **GW** [www.galerieimregierungsviertel.org](http://www.galerieimregierungsviertel.org)

Wallpaper\*