MUSEUM FÜNF KONTINENTE

MUSEUM FÜNF KONTINENTE
MAXIMILIANSTRASSE 42
80538 MÜNCHEN

T +49 (89) 210 136 100
F +49 (89) 210 136 247

MUSEUM-FUENF-KONTINENTE.DE

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PRESS RELEASE
OUT OF PLACE. ART AND STORIES FROM THE WORLD'S REFUGEE CAMPS
26.11.2026–30.5.2027

There are currently over 117 million displaced people all over the world, many of them living for years or even decades in camps that were only actually intended as temporary places of residence.

The special exhibition *Out of Place*, which the Museum Fünf Kontinente is showing from 26 November 2026 to 30 May 2027, directs attention not only to these places but above all to the people who live there: not as the victims of a humanitarian crisis but as artists. The exhibition is based on research by the *Fondazione Imago Mundi* from Treviso which was conducted in 18 of the largest refugee camps in the world from 2022 to 2024. During the research period, 264 artists produced 284 works in a standard format of 10 × 12 cm, which today form part of the *Imago Mundi Collection*.

On display are works from Kutupalong in Bangladesh, the largest refugee camp in the world with around 600,000 inhabitants. This is the current refuge of the Rohingya, a Muslim minority from Myanmar, who were refused citizenship by the country's government in 1982 and have been stateless ever since.

Further works originate from the camps of Dadaab and Kakuma in Kenya, the Ugandan refugee settlements of Bidibidi and Nakivale, the Sahrawi refugee camps in Algeria and Za'atari in Jordan, the largest camp for people who fled Syria, where a lively art scene has grown up around the artist Mohamad Jokhadar, who also lives there. Works from five Jordanian camps – Baq'a, Hittin, Irbid, Madaba and Souf – document the situation of the Palestinian refugees.

Further sections are devoted to Kurdish and Yazidi artists, who during the siege by the Islamic State lived at various times in temporary camps in Iraq, and to Afghan artists since the Taliban takeover in 2021. Works associated with the various refugee routes across the Mediterranean and the migrations in South and Central America are also featured.
There is also a section covering the situation of the almost six million Ukrainian refugees (as of December 2025).

The exhibition was curated by Claudio Scorretti, Irina Ungureanu and Aman Mojadidi with the participation of the artists working in the camps for the *Fondazione Imago Mundi*. It has already been shown in Treviso, Padua, the European Parliament in Brussels and Milan.

At the Museum Fünf Kontinente, it is shown alongside the contributions of four artists from Munich: Sepideh Akbarzadeh, born on the shores of the Caspian Sea and living in Munich since 2021, practises a slow, meditative painting technique, applying thousands of colour spots on a wood ground to create calm surfaces with a shimmering effect.
Delschad Numan Khorschid, a member of the Munich Residenztheater ensemble since 2019, uses the medium of the pencil – a tool that was denied him for a long time during his childhood in Iraq and has become a symbol for him of education and a voice of one's own.
Niaz Naseri incorporates ornamentation, calligraphy and amphora motifs of his Afghan homeland into his work.
With *Herzensdinge* the photographer Lydia Bergida, who was born in Israel and lives in Munich, presents a series of portraits which shows people from Ukraine with the few personal objects that were most important to them on their flight to Germany.

The four artistic approaches show the extent to which Munich's cultural life is enriched by people who have found their new home here. *Out of Place* is a reaction to one of the most pressing humanitarian issues of the present day and approaches it from an artistic perspective which has rarely featured in the public debate to date.

The special exhibition was created in cooperation with the *Fondazione Imago Mundi* and the *Europäische Janusz Korczak Akademie e. V.* Our thanks also go to Karl Straub, MdL, Integration Commissioner of the Bavarian State Government. The exhibition is held under the patronage of *UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe.*

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MUSEUM FÜNF KONTINENTE

Out of Place
Art and stories from the world's refugee camps
26.11.2026–30.5.2027

Opening times
Tue–Sun, 9.30am–5.30pm
For times on public holidays see www.museum-fuenf-kontinente.de

Admission charges for the special exhibition
The special exhibition is included in the admission charges for the permanent exhibition. Regular €5, reduced €4, Sundays €1.
All admission charges can be found on our website under Tickets.

Contact person
Clarissa Bluhm M.A.
Press and public relations
T +49 (89) 210 136–122 | clarissa.bluhm@mfk-weltoffen.de