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German American Heritage Museum & Cultural Center  
*In the Footsteps of Hitler: A Walking Tour of Munich* (November 2022)

## A General Chronology

- 25 MAY 1913** Hitler arrives in Munich, Germany
- 18 JAN 1914** Hitler arrested by Austrian agents for evading draft; (**5 FEB 1914**) fails army's medical exam & is released
- 16 AUG 1914** Hitler inducted into 2<sup>nd</sup> Bavarian Infantry Regiment; (**1 SEPT**) transfers to 1<sup>st</sup> Company, List Regiment
- 14 OCT 1918** Hitler is gassed near Ypres & recovers at Pasewalk military hospital
- 7-8 NOV 1918** Free Republic of Bavaria formed (**21 FEB 1919** PM Eisner plans to resign & is assassinated; Republic is dissolved)
- 5 JAN 1919** Anton Drexler & Karl Harrer form German Workers' Party (DAP)
- SPRING 1919** Bavarian Reichswehr creates Abteilung I b/P military intelligence bureau "to monitor morale among the troops & to expose any hints of subversive activity"
- 7 APRIL 1919** Bavarian Soviet Republic (aka "Schwabing Soviet") declared in Munich (**LATE APRIL 1919** it is overthrown)
- JUNE 1919** Captain Karl Mayr (Head, Education and Propaganda Department) chooses Hitler as "Education Officer" for Military District Command 4 to promote "anti-Bolshevik" ideas among the ranks
- JULY 1919** Hitler becomes *verbindungsman* ("low-level political agent") for Reichswehr to spy on radical groups
- 9 JULY 1919** Treaty of Versailles ratified; Hitler genuinely shocked = "the shame of Germany's surrender overwhelmed him"
- AUG 1919** Hitler talks publically for the 1<sup>st</sup> time & gets "affirmation and recognition from a larger circle of people"; (**SUMMER 1919**) a period of "politicization & radicalization" for his ideology
- 12 SEPT 1919** Hitler ordered to attend his 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of German Workers' Party (DAP) with 40 present; is given & reads Drexler's ideological pamphlet
- 16 SEPT 1919** Hitler writes 1<sup>st</sup> public anti-Semitic statements (letter about the "Jewish question" to Adolf Gemlich)
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<b>16 OCT 1919</b>	Hitler gives 1 <sup>st</sup> formal speech at DAP; 3 months later 10 x's as many attendees
<b>24 FEB 1920</b>	DAP becomes National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP)
<b>1 APRIL 1920</b>	<i>Reichswehr</i> discharges Hitler
<b>29 JULY 1921</b>	NSDAP votes in Hitler as leader; he receives 553/554 votes; days later the <i>Sturmabteilung</i> (SA, aka "Brownshirts") formed
<b>8-9 NOV 1923</b>	Beer Hall Putsch (lasts 17 hours)
<b>1 APRIL 1924</b>	Hitler sentenced to 5 years in Landsberg Prison; serves 9 months
<b>27 FEB 1925</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> public speech after prison release
<b>MARCH 1925</b>	Bavarian government bans Hitler from public speaking
<b>18 JULY 1925</b>	<i>Mein Kampf</i> published; (1939) English translation published
<b>MAY 1925</b>	NSDAP earns 6.5% in Reichstag elections
<b>MAY 1928</b>	NSDAP earns 2.6% in Reichstag elections
<b>28-29 OCT '29</b>	"Black Monday & Tuesday" stock market crashes Wall Street
<b>SEPT 1930</b>	NSDAP rises to 18.3% in Reichstag elections
<b>FEB 1932</b>	Hitler given German citizen (appointed state councillor in Brunswick)
<b>JULY 1932</b>	NSDAP and KPD earn 52% votes (Nazis earn 37.4%)
<b>NOV 1932</b>	NSDAP and KPD earn 49.8% votes (Nazis earn 33.1%)
<b>30 JAN 1933</b>	President Paul von Hindenburg appoints Hitler chancellor
<b>21 MAR 1933</b>	Munich paper announces establishment of Dachau
<b>23 MAR 1933</b>	Reichstag passes "Enabling Act"; Hitler given dictatorial powers
<b>30 AUG 1933</b>	Nazis hold Party rally at Nuremberg & Leni Riefenstahl films it
<b>30 JUNE 1934</b>	Night of the Long Knives eliminates SA/Brownshirts threat
<b>15 SEPT 1935</b>	Reich Citizenship Law passed (1 <sup>st</sup> Nuremberg Law)
<b>JUNE 1942</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> White Rose leaflet published
<b>18 FEB 1943</b>	Hans & Sophie Scholl arrested
<b>SPRING 1944</b>	Allied strategic bombing campaign reaches Munich

# MUENCHEN

HAUPTSTADT  
DER BEWEGUNG



**STADTKARTEN**

1:50,000

Vergrößerung: 1:50,000

Blattgröße: 40 x 50 cm

Verkaufspreis: 1,50 M

Bestellnummer: 1000000000

Verlag: Brombacher Glaser, München

Druck: 1930

Vertriebsstellen:

München: Brombacher Glaser, Königsplatz 10

Leipzig: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstadtstr. 10

Berlin: Brombacher Glaser, Unter den Eichen 10

Hamburg: Brombacher Glaser, Neuer Markt 10

Köln: Brombacher Glaser, Deutzer Markt 10

Frankfurt: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Stuttgart: Brombacher Glaser, Königsplatz 10

Düsseldorf: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Essen: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Dortmund: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Bielefeld: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Münster: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Osnabrück: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Wuppertal: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Duisburg: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Bochum: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Witten: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Veldeke: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

Herford: Brombacher Glaser, Hauptstr. 10

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## ZEICHENERKLÄRUNG:

- unmarkiertes Stadtgebiet
- Postamt
- Grundplan
- Freizeithof
- Wasser
- Reinigen
- Dynastie
- Kirchen
- Autobahn
- Straßenbahn
- Umland-Einrichtung
- Biergarten

## Guide to the “Degenerate Art” Exhibition (1937)

### What does the “Degenerate Art” exhibition want to achieve?

At the outset of a new era for the German people [*Volk*], *it wants* to offer a firsthand overview of the dreadful concluding chapter of those decades of cultural deterioration preceding the great change.

By appealing to the sound judgment of the people, *it wants* to put a stop to the palaver and claptrap of all those literary cliques and hangers-on, many of whom would still try to deny that we ever experienced artistic degeneracy...

**Group 6:** Here, a larger number of works serve to illustrate how degenerate art often served that part of Marxist and Bolshevist ideology whose goal is this: *the systematic elimination of the last remnants of all race consciousness.*

**Group 7:** This section of the exhibition makes clear that apart from the Negro as a racial ideal, the “modern” art of the time also had one very special *intellectual ideal*, namely the *idiot*, the *cretin* and the *paralytic*.

**Group 8:** For the sake of variety, *only Jews* are represented in this small room. In order to avoid any misunderstandings, it should be mentioned that this is only a small selection of the numerous sorry efforts by Jews that the exhibition shows overall.

**Group 9:** This section can only be titled “*Complete Lunacy.*” It takes up the largest part of the exhibition and includes a cross section of the spawn of all the “*isms*” that Flechtheim, Wollheim, and the “Cohn-sorts” have hatched, promoted, and flogged over the years. In the pictures and drawings of this chamber of horrors it is impossible to tell in most cases what those sick minds were thinking when they picked up the brush or pencil. While one eventually “painted” using only the contents of garbage cans, another made do with three black lines and a piece of wood on a large white background. A third had the bright idea to paint “some circles” onto two square meters of canvas. A fourth consecutively used a good three kilograms of paint for three self-portraits because he could not decide whether his head ought to be green or sulfur yellow, round or rectangular, and whether his eyes are red or sky blue or whatever. In this group of madness, visitors to the exhibition only shake their heads and laugh. Certainly not without reason. Yet when one considers that all of these “artworks” were taken not from the dusty corners of deserted studios but from the art collections and museums of major German cities, where some of them still hung in the initial years after the

National Socialist takeover and were presented to the astonished public, one can laugh no longer: *all one can do is grapple with one's anger at the fact that a people as decent as the Germans have been so gravely abused in such a manner to begin with.*

### **Excerpts from White Rose Leaflets (1942-1943)**

**Leaflet 1:** Nothing is more shameful to a civilized nation than to allow itself to be "governed" by an irresponsible clique of sovereigns who have given themselves over to dark urges – and that without resisting. Isn't it true that every honest German is ashamed of his government these days?... If the German nation is so corrupt and decadent in its innermost being that it is willing to surrender the greatest possession a man can own, a possession that elevates mankind above all other creatures, namely free will – if it is willing to surrender this without so much as raising a hand, rashly trusting a questionable lawful order of history; if it surrenders the freedom of mankind to intrude upon the wheel of history and subjugate it to his own rational decision; if Germans are so devoid of individuality that they have become an unthinking and cowardly mob – then, yes then they deserve their destruction...

But these days, Germans appear more like a shallow, irresolute herd of opportunists who have had all the marrow sucked from their bones. Now that they have been robbed of their essence, they are willing to be pursued to their destruction....

Do not forget that every nation deserves the government that it endures.

**Leaflet 2:** When the movement was still in embryonic form, it relied on deception of its fellow man. Even then, it was rotten to the core and could preserve itself only on the basis of constant lies... If this cancerous growth in the German nation was not too noticeable in the early phases, then that is because there were enough forces for good at work to try to slow its growth. But as it grew larger and larger and finally ascended to power by means of one last vulgar corruption, the abscess erupted and defiled the whole body.

**Leaflet 3:** [Our] present State is a dictatorship of Evil.... One day there will be nothing left, nothing at all, except for a mechanized national engine that has been commandeered by criminals and drunks... If a person cannot even summon the strength to demand his rights, then there is nothing left for him but destruction. We will have deserved to be scattered to all corners of the globe, as dust before

the wind, if we do not pull ourselves together in this eleventh hour and finally summon the courage that we have been lacking till now.

**Leaflet 4:** Every word that proceeds from Hitler's mouth is a lie. When he says peace, he means war. And when he names the name of the Almighty in a most blasphemous manner, he means the almighty evil one, that fallen angel, Satan. His mouth is the stinking maw of hell and his might is fundamentally reprobate...

There is no punishment on this earth that is adequate for the deeds of Hitler and his followers...

We will not keep silent. We are your guilty conscience. The White Rose will not let you alone! Please duplicate and pass it on!

**Leaflet 5:** The war is coming to its certain end....

And what is the German nation doing? It sees nothing, it hears nothing. It is blindly following its seducers to destruction... I will fight to the last man, says Hitler, but yet the war is already lost.

Germans! Do you and your children wish to suffer the same fate as the Jews?... Shall we forever be the most hated and rejected nation in all the world? No! Therefore, separate yourselves from the National Socialist sub-humanity!... Rend the cloak of apathy that you have wrapped around your hearts! Make up your minds, before it is too late!

Support the resistance movement, disseminate the leaflets!

#### **SOURCES:**

- <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/degenerate-art-1>
- [https://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub\\_document.cfm?document\\_id=1578](https://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=1578)
- <https://www.ushmm.org/learn/podcasts-and-audio/12-years-that-shook-the-world/bad-conscience>
- <https://whiteroseinternational.com/>