

Press talk

Museum Folkwang

Invitation

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

We cordially invite you to our press talk on **Thursday, 15 May 2025, 11 a.m.**, on the occasion of the exhibition:

Paula Rego
The Personal and The Political
16 May – 7 September 2025

in the Museum Folkwang.

Words of welcome:

Peter Gorschlüter, Director Museum Folkwang

Nadine Engel, Curator

Antonina Krezdorn, Research Fellow

Peter Daners, Curator Education

The exhibition will be open for previews from 10 a.m. The press conference will be followed by a guided tour with the curators.

Please register by Tuesday, 13 May 2025, at presse@museum-folkwang.essen.de.

We look forward to your participation and will be happy to answer any questions or interview requests on 0201 8845 160.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Rutten

Museum Folkwang

PAULA REGO

The Personal and The Political

16 May – 7 September 2025

Admission: 9 € (regular) / 5 € (reduced)

From 16 May to 7 September, Museum Folkwang is presenting ***The Personal and The Political***, an exhibition of more than 130 works by the Portuguese-British artist Paula Rego. She is known for her powerful, often shocking paintings and drawings that deal with power structures, gender roles, and social injustices.

Paula Rego (1935–2022) is one of the outstanding figurative painters of recent history. Her pictures have an explosive impact that only very few artists achieve. Born in Lisbon, Rego developed her unmistakable, stark art in her adopted home of England as of the 1950s.

The exhibition traces Rego's artistic development as of her studies at the Slade School of Fine Art in London in the 1950s to the 2000s. The focus is on those work series in which intimate, seemingly personal moments are transformed into images of collective experience. This **politicisation of the private sphere** is comparable to the efforts and methods of the **Women's Movement** in the 1960s and 1970s, which is why the title of the retrospective is based on the feminist slogan **'The personal is political'**. Paper was Rego's preferred medium from an early date. The range of works on display is complemented by selected paintings and examples of the dolls that Rego used for her compositions, which ultimately became works in their own right.

Funded by the Karin and Uwe Hollweg Foundation and with the kind support of Camões Berlim Portuguese Cultural Centre.

Press images



Paula Rego
Love, 1995
Pastel on paper on aluminium,
120 × 160 cm
Courtesy The Estate of Paula Rego and Victoria Miro
© Paula Rego Estate



Paula Rego
Iberian Dawn, 1962
Acrylic, ink, wax pencil, graphite and paper on canvas, collaged,
72,5 × 92 cm Domus Collection
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