After the war and his internment HMF completed his art studies at the Academy of Visual Arts in Leipzig in 1951. As head of the foundation course department and the youngest professor at the time, he established the Leipzig School together with Werner Tübke and Bernhard Heisig. One of the most famous artists in China, Shu Chuanxi, was one of his students. International lectures also took him to the Hamburg Academy of Fine Arts; during this time he created his "Hamburg works".

HMF was one of the few artists in the GDR who were not only established but also openly critical.

Thanks to his courageous work he gained much recognition from his students and an enthusiastic public despite many attempts to boycott him.

AM SCHALTPULT

Etching, 1974 (after a pencil drawing, 1966) 32,2 x 48,1 cm

DAS GEGENÜBER Woodcut, 1974 45 x 35 cm



The **galerie aurrenal/ter** ® was opened in 2002 with a retrospective of the works of Hans Mayer-Foreyt. During the first two years, the gallery also exhibited the works of some of his contemporaries and former students in Leipzig. Since 2004 the gallery has been dealing exclusively in works of HMF

DER SPECHT IM WALDE

Oil on canvas, 1980 80 x 100 cm





In its GDR era, the academy, which is today headed by Neo Rauch, brought forth artists like Rink, Stelzmann, Hachulla and the Ebersbach brothers. It is still regarded as one of the leading academies of art and today plays a decisive role on the German art market.

A large part of his work had already been sold to famous museums and collectors during his lifetime.

Works of HMF are seldom to be found on the market due to their potential rise in value.

Museums, dealers and collectors therefore make good use of the exclusive opportunity of directly assessing the artist's estate through the **galerie au/renal/ter** ®.

In addition to his other surviving woodcuts and subtile lithographies, two of his most famous graphic works of art are "Gegenüber" ("Vis-à-vis"), a huge, suit-clad body seen through glasses from a distance, with a "small" head, or the graphic "Am Schaltpult" ("At the control panel") which was designed for the occasion of the commissioning of the nuclear power plant in Greifswald showing a technician surrounded by technology, seeking support from the puppet he is hiding behind his back.





The painting "Der Specht im Walde" ("Woodpecker in the woods") (1980) which, at first glance, shows a woodpecker flying over a wood, has become the symbol of his spectacular art. Only upon closer inspection does one discern a large number of border guards and their dogs facing one another, with the woodpecker, the symbol of freedom, flying above. While his oil "Es schneit große Flocken" ("Big snowflakes") was still to be found in every East German schoolbook, his painting "Der Specht im Walde" provoked a scandal in East Berlin in 1984.

His artistic estate also contains some of his unique watercolours and his distinctive southern landscapes, some of which are painted in oil.