



**Invitation to the Press Conference
16 April 2009**

**Amedeo Modigliani
17 April – 30 August 2009**

Amedeo Modigliani was one of the most important artists of the 20th century. His works have long since gained iconic status in our collective pictorial memory. The Art and Exhibition Hall is holding a comprehensive retrospective exhibition to pay tribute to this outstanding artist, who died tragically young at the age of only 35. Born in Italy in 1884, Modigliani was a painter, draughtsman and sculptor. With the exception of a handful of landscapes, his creative energy was entirely devoted to portraits and nudes. Modigliani's paintings are deeply rooted in Italian art history, drawing particularly on the formal languages of the Renaissance and Mannerism. These he combined with elements from Expressionism, Cubism and Symbolism as well as African sculpture, whose perceived primitivism and iconic presence equally fascinated many other avant-garde artists of his day. While Modigliani's work cannot be easily classified as belonging to any contemporary styles such as Cubism or Fauvism, it bears eloquent testimony to the restlessness and exuberance of an artist only too aware of his own vulnerability and mortality, and who needed the euphoria of intoxication to live and work. Even today, Modigliani's idiosyncratic, at times melancholy portraits have lost none of their power to captivate the viewer. The exhibition is structured biographically, reflecting the decisive turning points of his life. The Art and Exhibition Hall hopes to present a representative selection of paintings, drawings and sculptures from 1900 to 1919, giving a vivid impression of the oeuvre of this exceptional artist.

**The press conference will be held on 16 April 2009 at 11.00 a.m. in the
Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany.**

Participant of the Press Conference:

- Robert Fleck, *Director, Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany*
- Christoph Vitali, *Curator*
- Susanne Kleine, *Project manager*
- Maja Majer-Wallat, *Press Officer, Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany*

Please register by Fax (+49/228/9171-211) or E-Mail (ferreira@kah-bonn.de). Extensive essays and photo material are available at the press office or www.bundeskunsthalle.de. Please direct all requests for interviews to this office.

We are looking forward to your visit.

Maja Majer-Wallat
Press Officer

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