

Pre-notification

The Flight after the Flood.

New Orleans – the city left behind

Special Exhibition from February 2 – May 10, 2009

GERMAN
EMIGRATION
CENTER



off into the world

Three years after the hurricane "Katrina" swept over New Orleans, Robert Green said: "But, we do learn from our mistakes." After tens of thousands had already left the city he and his family tried to save themselves by reaching the higher lying sport stadium "Superdome" on August 28th, 2005. Unfortunately without success, they returned to their home in the "9th Ward". A day later when the dykes broke this city district was hit the hardest by the flood catastrophe. His mother and granddaughter died through "Katrina". Green left New Orleans and returned one year later. In August 2008 when hurricane "Gustav" threatened New Orleans he again left the city and returned after several weeks. People stay and leave their homelands – in the city of New Orleans almost 200.000 people decided to migrate due to a weather catastrophe.

In a special exhibition from February 2nd-May 10th, 2009 the German Emigration Center Bremerhaven will present the aspects of inland migration using New Orleans as an example. The exhibition takes a look at the city, which was left behind through the eyes of the ones who have returned and those who had stayed. Installations, documentary films and exhibits form a unique concept, which allows for an intellectual, sensitive and emotional approach to a highly current topic.

For the special exhibition the German Emigration Center will present the installation "Floodwall" in Bremerhaven from the artist Jana Napoli, which has already been shown in New York and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Two months after hurricane "Katrina" Jana Napoli collected discarded drawers from the streets of the orphaned city. She created her installation "Floodwall" from the hundreds of memorabilia of the inhabitants who fled the city. In October 2008 the German Emigration Center along with the Argentinean cameraman Martin Granata filmed various self-contained short films in New Orleans. In six interviews the inhabitants of the city are questioned about their lives before and after "Katrina". The experiences told - partly shattering and partly melancholy with a bit of humor- form the core of the exhibition, which allows the visitor to perceive the chronology of the catastrophe and its' results step by step. A documentation of divergent statements on the catastrophe and the circumstances behind it are the theme in the entrance room.

The special exhibition was developed by the German Emigration Center in cooperation with Studio Andreas Heller, Hamburg. During the duration of the special exhibition a diverse complementary program with live-music, lectures and films will be offered.

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EUROPEAN MUSEUM
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A press conference for the special exhibition will be held in the German Emigration Center on Thursday, January 29th, 2009 at 11am. We would like to ask you to already save this date. After the press conference we will be sending out a detailed press release with extensive picture material.

Opening Hours

Daily, November to February 10 am-5 pm, March to October 10am-6pm

Admission fee

Main and special exhibition: 12,80 €

Special exhibition: 6 €, main exhibition: 10,50 €

Other prices upon request.

For questions or further information please contact:

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Should you have the chance to publish this article we would appreciate a short info and/or a copy for our references.



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