

# ART & TOYS - Selim Varol Collection

## "At Home I'm A Tourist"

**Extended until 14.10.2012**

me Collectors Room Berlin / Olbricht Foundation, Auguststrasse 68, 10117 Berlin  
 Opening hours: Tuesday – Sunday, 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.



Daniel & Geo Fuchs, Astroboy, 2004



KAWS, Christy Turlington Calvin Klein Ad Disruption, 1999



Blek le Rat, David with Kalashnikov, 2007

"my collection, that's me –  
 my childhood, my friends, my heroes, my role models, what i enjoy, what moves me.  
 pictures from my journey: 'at home i'm a tourist'" (Selim Varol)

From 26 May to 14 October 2012, me Collectors Room Berlin will be presenting the collection of **Selim Varol**. The exhibition will thus mark a return to an essential *leitmotif* of the foundation: the theme of collecting and the passion of the collector. The 39-year-old collector from Düsseldorf with Turkish roots has been collecting toys since his childhood and owns one of the largest collections of figurines in Europe, numbering some 15,000 pieces. A further focus of his collection lies in works by artists who trace their origins back to street art and 'Pop Surrealism'. One characteristic shared by all the works in this collection is the close link between art and the everyday, as well as their often playful and humorous or subversive character.

The world of toys, most of which are produced in Asia, is a world full of plastic and vinyl. The figurines are detailed miniature sculptures that have variously emerged from the imaginations of contemporary urban artists and designers, or from politics and current events (Andy Warhol, Fidel Castro, Hitler), the dream factory of the film industry (Batman, Superman, Rambo and many others) or comics and manga. Many works in this collection are well-known due to their presence in public spaces. **Shepard Fairey** helped create a groundswell for Barack Obama with his iconic 'HOPE' poster during the United States presidential race in 2008. And **JR**, the current TED Prize winner, attracted international attention in 2008 with his film '28 millimètres: Women Are Heroes' in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, where he mounted giant images of female residents on the façades of houses in order to raise awareness about their life stories and give these women a voice. The New York artist **KAWS** (Brian Donnelly) is another artist who has exerted a major influence on Selim Varol's collection, with Varol's first acquisition of his work in 1999. KAWS first made a name for himself in 1993 with his alienated images on bus stops, phone boxes and billboards (for instance the 'Christy Turlington Calvin Klein Ad Disruption'). He is represented in this exhibition with more than 160 works.

The exhibition includes a total of 3,000 works by more than 200 artists & designers from over 20 countries.

On 16.08.2012 the extensive catalogue of the collection "ART & TOYS – Collection Selim Varol" will be published. With a size of 23,5 x 30 cm you'll find on 236 pages essay (in German and English) by Jeffrey Deitch (urban art pioneer and director of the MOCA in Los Angeles) and Nicolas de Oliveira & Nicola Oxley (authors and curators from London) as well as 196 color illustrations. The catalogue is available for 39,90€

### Events:

Saturdays, 3 p.m.: Public guided tour

05.09.2012, 7.30 p.m.: Reading (in German)

Bi seiner heult – Autonoma list Kinderkram with Wolfram Eilenberger, Thomas Lindemann, Matthias Sachau and Florian Werner

Children's Programme: For schools and kindergartens (upon agreement); scavenger hunt (anytime)

Pop-Up Shop: In collaboration with Toykio, a selection of designer toys and exclusive editions will also be on offer in our shop.

Prior registration is required for all events. Programme details are available on our website: [www.me-berlin.com](http://www.me-berlin.com)

### List of artists:

123Klan, Rita Ackermann, Adam5100, Chiho Aoshima, Giorgio Armani, Suki Bamboo, Banksy, Garry Baseman, Bäst, Beast Brothers, Beejoir, Andrew Bell, Biff, Bigfoot one, Tim Biskup, Blek le Rat, Blu, Bob Dob, Bountyhunter, Randy Bowen, Brin Berliner, Bshit, Buffmonster, Milton Burkhart, Thomas Campbell, Case, James Cauty, Mori Chack, Henry Chalfant, Chip Kidd, David Choe, Luke Chueh, Coarse, Martha Cooper, Harmony Corine, Matias Corral, Robert Crumb, Dalek, Date Farmers, Dave the chimp, Dehara, Delta, Devilrobots, D\*Face, DJ Shadow, Dolce & Gabbana, Dolk, Doma Dr.Romanelli, Dran, Dust, Tristan Eaton, Eelus, Ben Eine, El Mac, Ron English, F.C .Ware, Fafi, Faile, Shepard Fairey, Ferg, Jeremy Fish, Florian Flatau, Sam Flores, Flying Fortress, Pete Fowler, Glen E. Friedman, Friends with you, Phil Frost, Daniel & Geo Fuchs, Hiroshi Fujiwara, Futura, Rene Gagnon, John Galliano, Jean Paul Gaultier, Huck Gee, Os Gemeos, Doze Green, Sadi Güran, Eric Haze, Evan Hecox, Herakut, Jean-Louis Dumas Hermes, Jamie Hewlett, Damien Hirst, Georg Hornemann, David Horvath, David Horvath & Sun-Min Kim, Marc Jacobs, Todd James, Jamungo, James Jarvis, Oliver Jeffers, JR, Nathan Jurevicius, Alex Katz, Rei Kawakubo, Audrey Kawasaki, KAWS, Peter Kennard, Josh Keyes, K-Guy, Margaret Kilgallen, Dave Kinsey, Jeff Koons, Frank Kozik, Charles Kraft, Curtis Kulig, Kurt Vonnegut & Joe Petro III, Christian Lacroix, Lady Aiko, Karl Lagerfeld, Helmut Lang, Michael Lau, Joe Ledbetter, Karin Lehmann, Matt Leines, Michael Leon, L.E.T., Paul Leung, Anthony Lister, Livingroom Johnston, London Police, Robert Longo, Lunartik, MAD\*L, Herman Makkink, Mantis, Martin Margiela, Marok, Mars 1, Ben Mathis, Barry Mcgee, Lucy McLaughlan, Bill McMullen, Dennis Mcnett, Tara McPherson, Alexander McQueen, Eugenio Merino, Mexxer, Anthony Micallef, Donny Miller, Miss Bugs, Miss Van, Mist, Brendan Monroe, Polly Morgan, Mr. Clement, Takashi Murakami, Scott Musgrowe, Muttpop, Yositomo Nara, Caleb Neelon, Nigo, Tim Noble & Sue Webster, Steve Olsen, Katsushiro Otomo, Tony Oursler, Jose Parla, Paul Insect, Marion Peck, Perks & Mini, Stefano Pilati, Ricky Powell, Miuccia Prada, Rob Pruitt, Pure Evil, Pushead, Oliver Råke, Jamie Reid, Retna, Terry Richardson, Rocketworld, Jermaine Rogers, Rolitoboy, Ryca, Mark Ryden, Saber, Erick Scarecrow, Todd Schorr, Semper Fi, Since, Jason Siu, Sket-one, Skewville, Skullphone, Hedi Slimane, PaulSmith, Hajime Sorayama, Jeff Soto, Space Invader, Spanky, SPQR, SSUR, Jeff Staple, Stash, Static, Tyler Stout, Stefan Strumbel, Suckadelic, Superdeux, Judith Supine, Swoon, Tado, Gary Taxali, Osamu Tezuka, Tilt, Tokidoki, Touma, Tim Tsui, Nasan Tur, Unkl, Urban Medium, Usugrow, Valentino, Gee Vaucher, Mark Dean Veca, Donatella Versace, Viktor & Rolf, Amanda Visell, Nick Walker, Vivienne Westwood, Dondi White, Kehinde Wiley, WK interact, Jim Woodring, Word to Mother, Bubi Au Yeung, Zevs

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