

Editorial

Take as ingredients kitchen furniture, appliances and accessories from the collection of the Lippisches Landesmuseum, add loans from private people and partner museums, spice it with expertise on cultural history, let it simmer over low heat for nine months, and you have an exhibition on the history of German kitchens since 1900. The recipe for this exhibition was written by the curators of the exhibition, Bettina Rinke (Detmold) and Joachim Kleinmanns (Karlsruhe), who were strongly supported in the preparation by the museum staff. Many cooks did not spoil the broth. Annette Hibbeler designed the catalogue, the poster and the exhibition texts. Thomas Giesen, Gabor Keller and Wolfgang Nolte were responsible for transport, restoration and repair, the architecture of the exhibition, and its assembly. Jürgen Ihle and Andrea Wolleschensky took the photos and edited the illustrations for printing. Heike Lennier managed the finances and handled the loans. Sabine Sundermann was in charge of the museum's pedagogical programme, and Monika Goedecke was in charge of public relations.

Now it is up to you, dear visitors of the exhibition, to come to table and taste what we have cooked – we wish you a hearty appetite.

The 20th century brought about dramatic changes in almost all areas of everyday life. The changes also affected kitchens and cooking. Just like the present era, the twenties were dominated by economy and reforms. For mass housing projects, the standardized "Frankfurt Kitchen" by the Austrian architect Margarethe Schütte-Lihotzky became a model of rationalized kitchens – but it is not the only one. After World War II, the modular fitted kitchen, the "dream kitchen", dominated German housing across all social classes. Today, two out of three German fitted kitchens are produced in the German region of East Westphalia (Ostwestfalen). This is why the cross-regional exhibition is also of regional interest.

Bettina Rinke and Joachim Kleinmanns together quickly came up with a viable concept for content and finances. Again, their work was highly professional. The idea of making the exhibition was fostered by the exhibition project *Mahlzeit – Kultur des Essens und Geniessens* (Bon appétit – the culture of eating and enjoying) curated by the Museumsinitiative in Ostwestfalen-Lippe e. V. This was an opportunity to exhibit the collection of historical kitchen furniture and appliances that had been stored in the archives of the Lippisches Landesmuseum. The collection came into being in 1989 as part of the project "Furniture and interior architecture" by the Faculty of Interior Design at the University of Applied Sciences of Lippe-Höxter in 1989. Many lenders, museums, companies and private people supported the exhibition with interesting exhibits, for which we would like to thank them very much. All loans and gifts are acknowledged on the following page and in the exhibition. The loans and gifts, and the financial support from major manufacturers of kitchen furniture and appliances emphasize the objectives and the value of this special exhibition. The exhibition project could not have been realized without the commitment of these sponsors. Other companies supported us by placing advertisements in the exhibition catalogue. We would like to thank them all. We hope that the exhibition will encourage others to appreciate and support the Lippisches Landesmuseum Detmold as a landmark collection of the history of furniture in the German region of Ostwestfalen-Lippe.

We hope that after visiting the exhibition, our visitors will enjoy their meals all the more if they are seasoned with a "pinch" of reflection on the cultural history of kitchens. We combined the exhibition with other interesting programs, for example, cooking lessons. This makes us confident that they will welcome many interested and well-satisfied visitors over the coming months.

Rainer Springhorn
Director
Lippisches Landesmuseum