

# DAVID NOLAN NEW YORK

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## George Grosz

- 1893 Born Georg Ehrenfried Gross in Berlin, only son and youngest child. His parents own a bar.
- 1898 The family moves to Stolp in Pomerania, where Georg's father is steward at the Freemasons' Lodge.
- 1900 Death of his father.
- 1901 The family moves to a poor area of Berlin.
- 1902 The family returns to Stolp.
- 1905 Fills a sketchbook with drawings after Ludwig Richter, Eduard Grützner, and Wilhelm Bush.
- 1909 Admitted to the Royal Academy of Arts in Dresden, where he studies under draftsman Richard Müller.
- 1911 Graduates with a Certificate of Honor from the Royal Academy of Arts.
- 1912 Moves to Berlin, and studies under Emil Orlik at the School of Arts and Crafts (Kunstgewerbeschule).
- 1913 Spends eight months in Paris, at the Académie Colarossi.
- 1914 Awarded second prize in a competition held by the Royal Museum of Arts and Crafts in Berlin. Enters military service in World War I, but is discharged in 1915 as "unfit for service".
- 1916 Disgusted with war-waging Germany, he anglicizes his name to George Grosz. With Franz Jung, he founds the first German Dada periodical, *Neue Jugend*, and begins a campaign of rebellion against the military. Theodor Däubler publishes the first article on Grosz's work. With Helmut Herzfeld (John Heartfield) he begins collaborating on montages.
- 1917 Enters the military again, but is eventually discharged as "permanently unfit for service". Wieland Herzfelde publishes two portfolios of his political satire.
- 1918 Moves into a studio at Nassauische Strasse 4, where he remains until his emigration to the United States in 1933. With John Heartfield and Wieland Herzfelde he enters the Communist Party.
- 1920 Continues activity in left-wing groups. The First International DADA Fair in Berlin includes collages produced individually and jointly by Grosz and Heartfield. His drawings are confiscated by the police. He is compelled to answer charges of "insulting the Reichswehr". Marries Eva Peter in Berlin.
- 1921 Charged with defaming the army with his portfolio *Gott mit uns* (*God with us*).
- 1922 Travels in the Soviet Union for five months, and subsequently leaves the Communist Party.
- 1923 His portfolio *Ecce Homo* results in conviction for defamation of public morals.
- 1926 Birth of his first son, Peter Michael.
- 1927 The Academy of Arts in Berlin exhibits 16 of his works.
- 1928 Creates a large number of stage designs, watercolors, drawings, and images for backcloth projection. He is accused of blasphemy as a result of works published in the portfolio *Hintergrund* (*Background*).
- 1930 Birth of his second son, Martin Olivier.
- 1931 Acquitted at a fifth court hearing.
- 1932 Invited to New York to teach at the Art Students League, he visits New York for the first time. Produces a large number of collages, two of which are published in *Vanity Fair*.
- 1933 Settles in New York, where he continues to teach at the Art Students League, leaving Germany a few days before the Nazis come to power. He is among the first opponents of the Nazi regime to be deprived of his German citizenship.
- 1936 Commissioned by *Esquire* magazine to produce illustrations, principally for articles by American authors.
- 1937 Produces political collages on the Spanish civil war. Awarded Guggenheim Fellowship. His work is included in the "Degenerate Art" exhibition traveling throughout Germany.
- 1938 His assets in Germany are seized. He becomes an American citizen. The Art Institute of Chicago dedicates a solo exhibition to his work.
- 1941 The Museum of Modern Art, New York, honors him with a retrospective that travels throughout the US.
- 1945 Awarded second prize at the *Painting in the United States 1945* exhibition at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh. Death of his mother.
- 1946 Dial Press, New York, publishes his autobiography, *A Little Yes and a Big No*.
- 1947 Ranked among the ten most important American living artists in an inquiry conducted among museum directors and art critics in the US. He receives many awards and honors but his financial situation remains precarious. The AAA Gallery, New York, presents the first major exhibition of his *Stick-Men*.
- 1954 Appointed member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, mounts a major retrospective of his work.
- 1955 Rowohlt Verlag, Hamburg, publishes the German edition of his autobiography.
- 1956 James Rosenquist, later a leading Pop artist, begins studying under him at the Arts Students League.
- 1959 Settles in Berlin again. Dies of heart failure. He is buried next to Theodor Däubler in the Heerstrasse cemetery in Charlottensburg.