



## Max Pechstein: DVD "Story of a Painter"

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Max Pechstein was the most successful painter of German Expressionism in his time. The artist paid homage to free expression, the Eros and the work of the ordinary people with his paintings, which today can be admired in major museums around the world.

The film "Max Pechstein. Story of a Painter":

The first documentary film about the great painter begins in 1909 with Pechstein's breakthrough as a freelance artist in Nidden, which was still East Prussia at the time. The film captures the first half of the 20th century like a kaleidoscope, with light and shadow, artistically and politically. With newly discovered photos and largely unknown historical film material, the "worker-artist" Max Pechstein is shown at the most significant places and in the greatest crises of his life. In addition to Dresden, Paris and Berlin, Lithuania and Poland, it is above all Pechstein's Saxon hometown of Zwickau to which the film captivates the viewer with touching scenes. The story of Max Pechstein is told on the one hand from the perspective of the painter, how he saw this time, how he experienced memory and how he understood the task of his art. On the other hand, in another storyline, the film reflects the memories of his grandchildren Julia and Alexander Pechstein about their grandfather and his wives Lotte and Marta. And it follows the great-granddaughter Dunja Pechstein to New York, where the painter had to live involuntarily in exile after fleeing from the Pacific paradise of Palau.

The internationally celebrated ballet choreographer John Neumeier gives a particularly deep insight into the creative world of the painter Max Pechstein with his very own "double view" as an artist and expert on the visual history of dance.

Written & directed by Wilfried Hauke. Narrator Axel Milberg. Total running time approx. 85 minutes. Language: German and English. © 2020 Max Pechstein copyright community and IDA Film & TV Produktion GmbH.

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