



DOERTHE BINKERT **WOMEN IN GOLD**

THE MUSES AND MODELS OF THE ARTIST GUSTAV KLIMT

**Femmes fatales and pretty girls, myths and allegories:
an invitation to walk around an imaginary museum
full of gleaming gold and intoxicating colours.**

The mysteries and dreams, essence and contradictions of the “new woman” on the way to the Age of Emancipation.

More than any other artist, Gustav Klimt (1862-1918), the most important painter of Viennese Art Nouveau, placed women at the centre of his artistic work. He dressed them in gold mosaics and transformed them into *femmes fatales*. His decorative and ornamental way of modelling the female body, endowing it with vibrant contours, was and still is greatly admired by women for his „golden style“. They saw themselves represented, not only in his superb portraits, but also – and above all – in his feeling for the „great feminine themes“ such as beauty and the erotic, death and hope, love and fulfilment.

In this book Doerthe Binkert opens the doors to an imaginary museum, one that has no counterpart in the world of art: she shows us Klimt’s models and muses, his dreaming brides and seductive nymphs, his elegant friends – bedded in gold and veiled in the finest fabrics, posed in costly interiors.

▪ A specifically female view of the „painter of the feminine soul“: knowledgeable and critical, sensitively and powerfully written.

Dr Doerthe Binkert grew up in Frankfurt am Main, where she studied German, Art History and Politics. After completing her doctorate she worked for several major German publishing houses, being a free-lance writer since 2007. Her books *Women and their Cats* and *Women and Roses* have been published by Thiele Verlag.

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