**Invitation to the Press Conference on May 18, 11 am**

**On the occasion of the donation of 15 important works and work complexes by Hanne Darboven to the Nationalgalerie through Susanne and Michael Liebelt, Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart – Berlin dedicates an exhibition to this important representative of conceptual art in Germany. The Nationalgalerie now possesses works from every creative period of the artist, who died in 2009.**

The exhibition ‘Hanne Darboven. Correspondences’ shows drawings, numerical constructions, and image series derived from her engagement with minimal and conceptual art. These works are combined with mailings from 1967 to 1975, which reveal the establishment and maintenance of a dense network of fellow artists, curators and friends. Prior to her death, the artist chose approximately 1,150 letters, postcards, sketches, plans and photographs from this time period for the general public with the title ‘Correspondence’. This collection, held by the Hanne Darboven Stiftung, provides new insights into her work process as well as the art system around 1970. In the wake of the publication of the letter exchanges of the ‘Correspondence’ in 2016 in a facsimile edition made possible by the Liebelt Stiftung Hamburg, now this material will be exhibited for the first time.

And so a figure comes to the fore, which has until now been overshadowed by her identity as an artist, collector and composer: Hanne Darboven the correspondent and her unbridled passion for writing. The exhibition presents a selection of letters received by Hanne Darboven and those penned by her to long-standing friends. For hundreds of letters were exchanged particularly between her and Carl Andre, Roy Colmer, Isi Fiszman, Sol LeWitt, Lawrence Weiner and members of her family. And in addition, there are messages to and from colleagues (Daniel Buren, Gilbert & George, Reiner Ruthenbeck or Ruth Vollmer), collectors (Giuseppe Panza di Biumo, Karl Ströher, Mia and Martin Visser), curators (Johannes Cladders, Douglas Crimp, Kasper König, Lucy Lippard), art dealers (Leo Castelli, Konrad Fischer or Adriaan Van Ravesteijn of Art & Project). For the first time, the exhibition takes these postal exchanges as an opportunity to also enquire into artistic correspondences with these pen friends. Accordingly, Darboven’s works from the collections of the Nationalgalerie, the Kupferstichkabinett and the Kunstbibliothek of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin are complemented by the presentation of works by artist colleagues with whom she was in close contact, such as Carl Andre, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Daniel Buren, Jan Dibbets, Sol LeWitt and Lawrence Weiner.

Curated by Gabriele Knapstein, Petra Lange-Berndt and Dietmar Rübel.

We would like to invite you to join us for the press conference and preview of the exhibition:

**Thursday, May 18, 2017**

**11 am**

**Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart – Berlin**

Speakers:

**Udo Kittelmann**, Director of the Nationalgalerie – Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

**Gabriele Quandt**, Chairwoman of the Freunde der Nationalgalerie

**Gabriele Knapstein**, Head of Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart – Berlin

**Petra Lange-Berndt, Dietmar Rübel**, Editors of „Hanne Darboven. Korrespondenz 1967-1975“

To attend the press conference we ask for accreditation in the press section of our website **www.freunde-der-nationalgalerie.de** or via email to **presse@freunde-der-nationalgalerie.de**

For more information and press photographs to download, see the press area at our website, **www.hannedarboveninberlin.de**

*The exhibition is made possible by the Freunde der Nationalgalerie.*