Design

Heartfield said he would have liked to have been the designer of socialism, if he had been permitted. The slightly younger Klaus Wittkugel took over this role, imparting a more spatial feel to Heartfield's montage process. Several examples of his utilitarian graphic work can be seen here.

Heartfield's political photomontages have little in common with the official art doctrine of socialist realism. As a designer, therefore, he worked mainly with Bertolt Brecht and Wolfgang Langhoff in the theatre. Thanks to the support of friends like Brecht, he was elected a member of the Akademie der Künste and was gradually rehabilitated. Exhibitions of his early work, recognition and accolades followed later.