

Press release
Zurich, 13 May 2011

Kunsthaus Zürich receives unique collection of works by Joseph Beuys

The multifaceted series of works by Joseph Beuys that make up the exhibition 'Difesa della Natura' (Defence of Nature) is being donated to the Kunsthaus Zürich. On show at the Kunsthaus until 14 August, the exhibition features well over 100 sculptures, objects, drawings, graphic works, photographs and videos drawn from the collection of Baroness Lucrezia De Domizio Durini and her late husband Buby Durini.

For many years Joseph Beuys (1921–1986) made repeated visits to Bolognano, a small mountain village in southern Abruzzo where his friends Baron Buby Durini and his wife Lucrezia De Domizio Durini owned an estate. Beuys' activities there, undertaken together with the Durinis, soon turned into a series of long-term projects. From 1973 to 1985 Bolognano became a venue for both discussions and agricultural activities which, in their turn, gave rise to sculptures, drawings, photographs, videos, tape recordings and editions. Thanks to the personal dedication of Baroness Lucrezia De Domizio Durini, these records have been preserved in their entirety and are now being donated to the Kunsthaus collection. They complement the masterly 'Olivestone', which was presented to the Kunsthaus Zürich by the Durinis in 1992.

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Visual material available to download at www.kunsthaus.ch under Information > Press.