

Press Release

Zurich, 15 September 2011

Kunsthhaus Zürich presents 'Young Art' from its collection

From 16 September to 27 November, the Kunsthhaus Zürich will be showing an exhibition of works from its collection entitled 'Young Art,' featuring a selection of acquisitions by the 'Gruppe Junge Kunst' (Young Art Group). Divided into three chapters, the show presents some of the most recent additions: works by Latifa Echakhch, Haris Epaminonda, Keren Cytter, Pauline Boudry/Renate Lorenz, Mark Manders and Lucy Skaer. The Group began acquiring art in 1970.

The Gruppe Junge Kunst is part of the Vereinigung Zürcher Kunstfreunde (VZK), the Kunsthhaus' patron association. Since 1970, with an annual budget of CHF 70,000 from VZK membership fees, it has been buying contemporary art which it presents to the Kunsthhaus on long-term loan. The result is an impressive collection of sculptures, videos, installations, paintings, photographs and drawings that are now being shown in an exhibition. 'Young Art' is conceived as a narrative in a number of chapters, and will be accompanied by performances and other events.

EARLY PURCHASES THAT ARE NOW WORLD-FAMOUS

The acquisitions include works purchased by the Group at an early stage that are now world-famous, including pieces by John Armleder, Martin Kippenberger, Fischli/Weiss, Andreas Gursky, Olafur Eliasson and Günther Förg. But the 'Young Art' exhibition also revives pieces that have fallen into obscurity as well as showing works by young artists that have been bought in recent years: Keren Cytter, Lucy Skaer, Latifa Echakhch, Tobias Madison, Mark Manders, Pauline Boudry/Renate Lorenz, Stefan Burger, Georg Gatsas, Andro Wekua and Cat Tuong Nguyen. Haris Epaminonda, whose exhibition has had to be postponed until 2013, is also among the artists represented. Her photographs 'Untitled (#3)/(#11)/(#34)/(#35)/(#49)' were created in 2008 and are now receiving their first museum exhibition.

In keeping with the spirit of the Gruppe Junge Kunst, the presentation adopts an innovative format: it is designed not as a fixed, static construct but rather as a story in a number of chapters. Three alternating presentations in the cabinet display purchases from recent years (16.9.-9.10.: Latifa Echakhch, Haris Epaminonda, Keren Cytter. 11.10.-30.10.: Pauline Boudry/Renate Lorenz. 1.11.-27.11.: Mark Manders, Lucy Skaer).

PERFORMANCE AND ARTIST TALK

Curator Mirjam Varadinis is herself a member of the Gruppe Junge Kunst. On Wednesday 12 October at 6 p.m. she will be taking part in a discussion with the artist Pauline Boudry.

From 16 to 18 September visitors can also view a performance by the artist Cat Tuong Nguyen. His work 'Milgram's Wake' depicts in physical form the clash of Asian and European cultures: He copies diagrams, pictures and fragments of text drawn from medical textbooks on the psychopathology of westerners and sews them onto scraps of clothing. The economic hardship of his former homeland, Vietnam, meets the psychological suffering of western society.

Contemporary art requires commitment and reflection not only from its producers, but also from its recipients and, between the two, promoters and educators. For information on the activities of the patron association, which substantially expands the Kunsthaus' holdings and injects fresh new ideas, see the website www.kunstfreunde-zuerich.ch.

The performance and artist talk, as well as further upcoming events are supported by the VZK.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz 1, CH-8001 Zurich

Tel. +41 (0)44 253 84 84, www.kunsthhaus.ch

Sat, Sun, Tues 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed, Thurs, Fri 10 a.m.–8 p.m., closed on Mondays.

Admission: CHF 14 / CHF 10 concessions. Children and young people up to the age of 16 free of charge. Schools and groups are asked to reserve in advance.

Advance sales: SBB RailAway combination ticket, with discount on rail travel and admission: available at railway stations and by phoning Rail Service: 0900 300 300 (CHF 1.19 per min. by ground line), www.sbb.ch. Magasins Fnac, sales points in Switzerland: Rives, Balexert, Lausanne, Fribourg, Pathé Kino Basel, www.fnac.ch; F: Carrefour, Géant, Magasins U, 0 892 68 36 22 (EUR 0.34/min), www.fnac.com; BE: www.fnac.be.

CONTACT FOR MEDIA

To download visual material go to www.kunsthhaus.ch > Information > Press.

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