

Press release
Zurich, 17 January 2013

Kunsthhaus Zürich receives around 250,000 visitors. The new year begins with Chagall.

With 248,644 admissions to the end of 2012, the Kunsthhaus Zürich experienced a below-average year. Membership of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft remained virtually unchanged, at over 21,000. The Kunsthhaus is looking to increase visitor numbers in 2013, with exhibitions devoted to Chagall and Munch. Prices for group admissions are being reduced.

As expected, the 2012 programme attracted fewer visitors to the Kunsthhaus Zürich. 248,644 admissions were recorded (compared with 355,073 in 2011). With an eye to the vote on the extension, the Kunsthhaus opted to focus on presenting the form and content of the new building and did not stage any blockbuster exhibitions during the year. Membership of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft, the Kunsthhaus's patron organization, remained virtually stable, at 21,198 compared with 21,652 in the previous year.

OPERATING LOSS. OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK.

Lower income from the exhibitions depressed the operating result. As forecast at the start of the year, the interim accounts reveal a deficit that can be partially compensated by the release of reserves specifically created for that purpose. The 2012 annual financial statements are expected to show a loss of around CHF 385,000. The Kunsthhaus is forecasting a balanced result for 2013. A significant proportion of income is immediately invested – in museum software, new servers and a point-of-sale system incorporating an advance sales option.

REDUCED PRICES FOR GROUPS

As of 1 January 2013, prices for group admissions (20 persons and more) have been lowered to CHF 10 from CHF 12 in the collection and CHF 18 instead of CHF 20 for a combined ticket including both the collection and all temporary exhibitions.

MANY NEW SWISS ACQUISITIONS IN THE COLLECTION

New acquisitions in the collection include works by Stefan Burger, Urs Fischer, Thomas Flechtner, Thomas Hirschhorn, Christian Marclay, Dieter Meier, David Renggli, Dieter Roth, Pipilotti Rist and others.

Exhibitions 2013

CHAGALL. MODERN MASTER. 8 FEBRUARY – 12 MAY 2013

This exhibition, staged by the Kunsthhaus in collaboration with Tate Liverpool, rediscovers Chagall as a ground-breaking avant-garde artist who melded the pictorial idiom of abstract Modernism with narrative elements, sentiment, nostalgia, fantasy and influences drawn from folklore to create works of inimitable poetry. It focuses on the years from 1908 to 1922, a period in Chagall's career that sees joyful storytelling combine with his characteristically unorthodox compositional structure, the bold deployment of colour and his unique and special poetic sensibility. The result is a milestone in modern painting. This main exhibition is also open on Mondays, and can therefore be visited seven days a week. For the first time, there is also an audioguide for children.

Supported by Credit Suisse – Partner of the Kunsthhaus Zürich.

HARIS EPAMINONDA. 15 FEBRUARY – 5 MAY 2013

The Kunsthhaus Zürich is hosting the first solo exhibition in Switzerland by Cyprus-born artist Haris Epaminonda (*1980). She often uses found materials, be they illustrations from books, films or sculptures, and assembles them into multi-layered spatial installations, thus creating enigmatic works and situations that defy precise categorization and instead remain in a kind of 'in-between' state. Haris Epaminonda is producing a film that will receive its first showing in Zurich.

Supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art.

KELLY NIPPER – BLACK FOREST. IN DIALOGUE WITH DRAWINGS BY RUDOLF VON LABAN. 5 APRIL – 16 JUNE 2013

In her videos, installations and performances the American artist Kelly Nipper (*1971) investigates the relationship between the human body, movement, space and time. She is interested in ritual gestures and processes, and her choreographies recall the origins of experimental dance. One particularly influential figure is Rudolf von Laban (1879 – 1958), who is considered the co-founder of modern expressive dance. The Kunsthhaus Collection includes drawings and watercolours by von Laban, which Kelly Nipper uses as the starting point for works that are being created specially for the exhibition. Her new performance 'Black Forest' will be a central element of the presentation.

Supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art.

VALKYRIES OVER ZÜRICH. 150 YEARS OF WAGNER PERFORMANCES IN ZÜRICH. 24 MAY – 18 AUGUST 2013

For the first time, the 'theatrical art exhibition' at the Kunsthaus offers an overview of 150 years of Wagner performances in Zurich from 1852 to 2002, when Bob Wilson astonished audiences around the world with his stage designs. The drawings, watercolours, production photographs, programmes and set models come from the Swiss Theatre Collection in Bern, the Zurich City Archives, the Museum of Design and Zurich central library. The presentation, structured like a Wagner opera with a 'prelude' and three 'acts,' illustrates his stylistic development and documents outstanding productions using hitherto little-known visual materials.

THE HUBERT LOOSER COLLECTION. 7 JUNE – 8 SEPTEMBER 2013

The highlights of this private collection, some 70 works which will be on permanent display in the Kunsthaus from 2017, include pieces by Cy Twombly, Robert Ryman and Anselm Kiefer as well as Abstract Expressionism in the form of Willem de Kooning, an outstanding ensemble of whose works is held by the Looser Collection. Also prominent are John Chamberlain and David Smith. Minimal Art is represented by the Americans Donald Judd and Ellsworth Kelly; they are joined by the abstract artist Agnes Martin as well as Jasper Johns and Brice Marden. Within Europe, the theme of the mythic and archaic in nature receives new attention, with Giuseppe Penone's installations and works by Lucio Fontana. There are also positions that have not been chosen for the expanded Kunsthaus, such as individual works by Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse and Alberto Giacometti. Accompanying the exhibition is a 'summer workshop' offering a wide range of guided tours, studios and other events for all generations.

LONNIE VAN BRUMMELEN / SIEBREN DE HAAN

6 SEPTEMBER – 10 NOVEMBER 2013

Lonnie van Brummelen (*1969) and Siebren de Haan (*1966) work together principally in the medium of film. In 2005, Lonnie van Brummelen was awarded the prestigious Prix de Rome for her work 'Grossraum,' which was shown in the group exhibition 'Shifting Identities' at the Kunsthaus in 2008 and was subsequently purchased by MoMA, New York. The artists turn the spotlight on political, social and economic processes and translate their observations into works that are both visually striking and formally impressive. This is their first solo presentation in Switzerland. A new film work is being produced specially for the Kunsthaus.

EDVARD MUNCH – 200 MASTER PRINTS 1894 – 1944

4 OCTOBER 2013 – 12 JANUARY 2014

Love, pain and death, passion, loneliness and sorrow: the entire oeuvre of Edvard Munch (1863 – 1944) revolves around the fundamental experiences of human existence and the lives of modern people. Munch is one of the precursors of the Expressionist currents that began to shape European painting at the start of the 20th century. The formal boldness of his imagery and the radicalism of his themes inspire artists to this day. The prints are a central component of his output. His masterpieces in printed form include many elaborations of his world-famous subjects, such as 'The Scream,' 'Madonna,' 'Melancholy,' and 'The Sin.' In his large-format colour lithographs, etchings and woodcuts, including hand-coloured plates and experiments in printing on coloured paper, Munch often condenses the expressive power of his central symbolist allegories in a way that is more compelling than his paintings.

Supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art.

Displays from the collection and collaborations

HODLER, VALLOTTON, ANKER

Now that restoration of the important first version of Ferdinand Hodler's 'Truth' (1902) is complete, it will be on display from 18 January to 17 March together with the second version, which belongs to the City of Zurich, as well as preparatory drawings. From 5 July to 22 September the focus shifts to a second Swiss painter: the consummate visual ironist and artful magician of colour Félix Vallotton. Works on loan from a major private Zurich collection combine with pieces from the Kunsthaus holdings to form an impressive group by this exceptional artist. In the latest 'Picture Ballot,' members of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft chose a portrait of children by Albert Anker. The display featuring this painting opens on 29 November.

COLLABORATION WITH THE ZURICH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

During 2013, the Kunsthaus will be teaming up with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra. Concerts will take place to accompany the works by Giacometti and the exhibitions 'Chagall,' 'Valkyries over Zurich' and 'Edvard Munch.' For further information and tickets, see www.zko.ch

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz 1, CH-8001 Zurich. tel. +41 (0)44 253 84 84, www.kunsthaus.ch.

Open: Sat, Sun, Tues 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Wed, Thurs, Fri 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Chagall exhibition also open on Mondays. Public holidays: see www.kunsthaus.ch.

Admission to the collection including audioguide (in English, German, French or Italian): CHF 15 / CHF 10 (concessions). Exhibitions CHF 22 / CHF 15 (concessions and per head for groups of 20 or more). Children and young people up to the age of 16 free of charge.

Free admission with annual membership: adults CHF 95 / children and young people up to 25 years of age CHF 30 / couples CHF 160

NOTE TO MEDIA

Illustrations are available at www.kunsthhaus.ch > Information > Press.

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