

Press release
Zurich, 14 January 2016

Kunsthhaus Zürich: solid result in 2015, new programme offers Dada and more

Visitor numbers were solid at the Kunsthhaus Zürich last year, with a total of 290,000 admissions. The programme for 2016 presents exhibitions on contemporary art and historical positions, including contributions marking 100 years of the Dada movement. Pipilotti Rist, Francis Picabia and Alberto Giacometti are the major highlights in the large exhibition gallery.

The Kunsthhaus Zürich recorded 290,000 admissions in 2015, compared with 301,630 in the previous year. This figure is in line with the long-term average. The annual financial statements are expected to show a loss, which will be covered from the available compensation reserve. The most popular exhibition was 'Japanese Inspirations', which was seen by around 100,000 visitors. 'Joan Miró. Wall, Frieze, Mural' only attracted the expected daily figure of 1,000 admissions at the start of 2016; it continues until 24 January. The Dada year begins with a project that will later transfer to the Museum of Modern Art, New York:

DADAGLOBE RECONSTRUCTED. 5.2. – 1.5.16

'Dadaglobe' brings together the more than two hundred artworks and texts that were sent to Tristan Tzara by artists in 1921. This epochal but hitherto unpublished book project is finally being realized to mark the 100th anniversary of Dada's foundation. Featuring items assembled from around the world, the exhibition is a milestone in recent Dada research. It comprises self-portraits, photomontages and collages, drawings, book page designs, poems and essays as well as manuscripts, printed matter and historical documents. 'Dadaglobe' is an impressive survey of the artistic diversity, socio-political relevance and art-historical impact of Dada. With contributions by Hans Arp, André Breton, Max Ernst, Hannah Höch, Sophie Taeuber-Arp and some 30 other artists.

PIPILOTTI RIST. 26.2. – 8.5.16

This year, Pipilotti Rist (b. 1962) is exhibiting in her home country. The Swiss artist is a pioneering figure in video art who has achieved international fame with her sensual and audacious video installations that tackle conventions and taboos in an entertaining, ironic and self-confident way. The exhibition presents key works from the beginning of her international career, including the early single-channel videos with which she became known in the 1980s. Pipilotti Rist is creating a large-format installation in the expansive space of the Bührlé gallery specially for Zurich, in which she explores new artistic and technical

avenues. A major light installation beneath the glass roof of the Kunsthaus will send a powerful signal to the world outside. The creation and acquisition of this work, which will remain at the Kunsthaus, are supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art, as is the exhibition itself.

AKRAM ZAATARI. 20.5. – 31.7.16

Artist Akram Zaatari engages with image production in a rather different way. His photographs, videos and (film) installations deal with the impact of war and territorial conflicts, particularly in the Middle East. He investigates the logic of religious and national resistance, while at the same time reflecting on the status of image production and circulation today. Born in southern Lebanon in 1966, Zaatari is a co-founder of the Arab Image Foundation. He has become widely known thanks to major group exhibitions including documenta 13 and the Venice Biennale 2013, as well as solo shows. The exhibition at the Kunsthaus is his first solo presentation in Switzerland.

FRANCIS PICABIA. A RETROSPECTIVE. 3.6. – 25.9.16

Our presentation of the work of Francis Picabia (1879–1953) is not the first in Zurich but is unprecedented in its depth and breadth. It is being staged to mark the 100th anniversary of the Dada movement's foundation in the city. The retrospective explores Picabia's early successes as an Impressionist painter and his essential contribution to Dada, and moves via his controversial pin-up girls to the abstract works created after the Second World War. Picabia remains a hotly debated figure among the great artists of the 20th century. Throughout his life he set his face against mechanisms of value judgment that distinguished high art from kitsch and conservatism from radicalism. Self-critically and with acerbic humour, he questions the very basis of the modern. While the works from Picabia's Dada years are well known, there is no shortage of surprises among his work as a whole. In addition to some 100 paintings, the exhibition includes works on paper, avant-garde magazines and examples of his film and theatre production. The exhibition is a collaboration with the Museum of Modern Art, New York, where it will be on display from November.

HANS JAKOB OERI. 12.8. – 23.10.16

'Hans Jakob Oeri – A Swiss Artist in Paris, Moscow, Zurich' is an exclusive presentation at the Kunsthaus. It is the first exhibition devoted to this long underappreciated and forgotten artist and draughtsman from Zurich. During his lifetime (1782–1868), he was respected and admired throughout Europe. His works were sought after by collectors and to this day are regarded as some of the finest and most innovative examples of Swiss art from the first half of the 19th century. In Paris in 1806 Oeri completed 'Chloe', his masterpiece in the French neo-classical style, based on an idyll by Salomon Gessner. Around 1807, the year of his return to Switzerland, he painted 'The Studio in Paris'. Despite the

uneasy confinement of the space and the bitter poverty in evidence, Oeri managed to produce an evocative image of family and friendship in which the dignity of art triumphs over privation, enforced competition and rank.

ALBERTO GIACOMETTI: MATERIAL AND VISION. 28.10.16 – 15.1.17

Alberto Giacometti (1901–1966), the world-famous Swiss sculptor and painter, also had close ties to Paris, spending much of his life in the French capital. Now, 50 years after his death, a major exhibition illuminates the fundamental aspects of his work. At the heart of the presentation are 75 precious original plasters from the artist's estate, which have been researched and restored at the Kunsthaus as part of a multi-year project. Plaster allowed Giacometti to paint or rework his objects in a wide variety of ways; indeed, a significant number of his sculptures exist only in a plaster version. Through numerous masterpieces from every stage of his career, the exhibition focuses on Giacometti's approach to the material nature of his chosen media. In addition to precious and fragile plasters, it also includes works in marble, wood and bronze. The exhibition complements the holdings of the Kunsthaus with important loans from elsewhere, notably the non-public Fondation Alberto et Annette Giacometti in Paris, which are being shown for the first time on this scale in Switzerland.

A contribution to culture by Credit Suisse – Partner of the Kunsthaus Zürich.

PETER WECHSLER. DRAWINGS. 11.11.16 – 22.1.17

Peter Wechsler (b. 1951) is one of a generation of abstract artists who, following on from minimal and conceptual art, have been opening up new and contemplative fields of expression for the medium of drawing as system and sensory experience. Such artists address a fundamental question: how can the systematic deployment of the draughtsman's means create spaces and structures that engage and challenge the viewer's sensory perception? The exhibition reconstructs a cycle of impressive large-format pencil drawings (1994–2008). The Kunsthaus is also the first art museum to present a selection of recent, unframed ink brush drawings.

COLLECTION, RESTORATION AND EVENTS

The Kunsthaus is structured as both museum and art gallery and contains an important collection comprising works of Western art from the 13th century to the present day, including 4,000 paintings, sculptures and site-specific installations, 95,000 works on paper, photographs and videos. Excluding the Knecht collection, more than 100 works were donated to or acquired by the Kunsthaus in 2015. Preserving the art is a continual process. Currently, more than 250 artists' videos are being meticulously restored and made available to the public once again as part of a four-year project. Additionally, all 550 volumes of the video collection are being digitized. The Dada holdings are also being digitized, in order to make them more accessible to the public at large. In

In addition to its collection and exhibitions, the Kunsthaus offers a publicly accessible art library comprising 265,000 volumes. The Kunsthaus attaches great importance to involvement: between now and the summer, young people will be producing an app with an audioguide on the subject of time. The art education programme includes more than 1,000 additional offerings, from one-off art-historical guided tours to the regular children's club and workshops for people with dementia. Details of current events, such as the costume ball on 13 February and the Open Day on 12 March – both of which are supported by Credit Suisse, Partner of the Kunsthaus Zürich – can be found on Facebook, in our electronic newsletter and in the online diary.

SAVE MONEY WITH A MEMBERSHIP

Traditionally, admission to the Kunsthaus collection is free on Wednesdays. Members of the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft (currently numbering more than 20,000, making it the largest patron association of a museum in the German-speaking countries) enjoy free access throughout the year. An annual membership costs CHF 115 for adults, CHF 195 for couples, and CHF 30 for children and young people up to 25 years of age. Admission is free for children and young people up to age 16.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz 1, CH-8001 Zurich

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

Fri-Sun/Tues 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Wed, Thurs 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Public holidays: see www.kunsthaus.ch.

Admission to the collection including audioguide (in English, German, French or Italian): CHF 15 / CHF 10 (concessions and groups). Exhibitions up to CHF 22 / CHF 17 (concessions and groups). Combination tickets including the collection and exhibition CHF 25 / CHF 18. Admission free to visitors up to the age of 16.

Advance sales: SBB RailAway combination ticket, with discount on travel and admission: at stations and by phoning Rail Service 0900 300 300 (CHF 1.19/min. by land line), www.sbb.ch/kunsthaus-zuerich.

Zurich Tourism: hotel room reservations and ticket sales, Tourist Service at Zurich Main Railway Station, tel. +41 44 215 40 00, information@zuerich.com, www.zuerich.com.

NOTE TO MEDIA

Visual materials are available at www.kunsthaus.ch > Information > Press. For further information, contact: Kunsthaus Zürich, Kristin Steiner kristin.steiner@kunsthaus.ch, tel. +41 (0)44 253 84 13