

Media release  
Zurich, 26 October 2023

**Kunsthhaus Zürich presents an exhibition on 'Ernst Scheidegger. Photographer'**

**From 27 October to 21 January 2024, the Kunsthhaus Zürich presents 'Ernst Scheidegger. Photographer', an exhibition honouring one of the leading Swiss photographers of the 20th century, whose images of Alberto Giacometti are known to a wide audience. Marking the 100th anniversary of his birth, it reveals the surprising and less-known work of the former Magnum photographer and companion of many artists: among others reportage photos along with portraits of prominent figures from the art world.**

Ernst Scheidegger (1923–2016) was not only one of the leading Swiss photographers of the 20th century and someone with close ties to both the Kunsthhaus Zürich and the Alberto Giacometti Foundation, but also an artist, publisher and gallerist. Following a major presentation at the Kunsthhaus Zürich in 1992 devoted to all those aspects of his work, this time round the focus shifts to Scheidegger the photographer. This new show features a series of early, largely unpublished images along with a selection of important photographs in which Scheidegger captured artists of his time, including Joan Miró, Hans Arp, Max Bill, Germaine Richier and Alberto Giacometti.

**80 BLACK-AND-WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE 1940s TO THE MID-1980s**

The exhibition thus reveals a key development in Scheidegger's career: from autonomous, expressive photography in the style of Werner Bischof to the restrained photographic work for which he is famed today, devoted entirely to honouring the artistry of others. The presentation in the cabinet of the historic Moser building curated by Collection Curator Philippe Büttner comprises some 80 black-and-white photographs. These modern prints are complemented by vintage prints, original prints realised and signed by Scheidegger himself, and a series of works from the collections of the Kunsthhaus and the Alberto Giacometti Foundation by the artists whom Scheidegger portrayed in his photographs.

The exhibition is a collaboration with MASI Lugano and the Stiftung Ernst Scheidegger-Archiv, Zürich.

Supported by the Monsol Foundation, the Ernst Göhner Foundation and the Erna and Curt Burgauer Foundation.

## GUIDED TOURS

Public guided tours in German take place on Thursday 9 November from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 10 December from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., and Thursday 12 January from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Kunsthaus will be happy to arrange private guided tours in German and other languages on request.

## PUBLICATION

A hardback entitled 'Ernst Scheidegger. Photographer' is being published in a German and an English edition by Scheidegger & Spiess, in an Italian by Edizioni Casagrande to accompany the exhibition. It is the first publication on the work of Ernst Scheidegger that has not been designed by the photographer himself. With 248 pages and 168 b/w and 12 colour illustrations, it contains contributions by the exhibition's two curators, Philippe Büttner, Collection Curator at the Kunsthaus Zürich, and Tobia Bezzola, Director of MASI Lugano, photo historian Alessa Widmer, and Helen Grob, Ernst Scheidegger's companion of many years. It is available in the museum shop and from book stores, price CHF 51.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz, CH-8001 Zurich

Tel. +41 (0)44 253 84 84, [www.kunsthaus.ch](http://www.kunsthaus.ch)

Fri-Sun/Tue 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed/Thu 10 a.m.–8 p.m. For public holiday opening see [www.kunsthaus.ch](http://www.kunsthaus.ch).

Admission incl. collection: CHF 23 / CHF 18 (concessions and groups). Admission free to visitors under the age of 17.

Advance ticket sales: [www.kunsthaus.ch](http://www.kunsthaus.ch)

Zurich Tourism, tourist information office in Zurich main railway station, tel. +41 44 215 40 00, [info@zuerich.com](mailto:info@zuerich.com), [www.zuerich.com](http://www.zuerich.com).

## CONTACT FOR THE MEDIA

Media releases and images to download as well as an overview of dates for further media briefings can be found at [www.kunsthaus.ch/en/medien-bereich/media-corner/](http://www.kunsthaus.ch/en/medien-bereich/media-corner/).

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