

Press release

Zurich, 25 January 2023

## All sections of Kunsthau Zurich collection to reopen between March and April

**Since the fire in the packing room of the old building in August last year, many of the collection rooms have remained closed. The ceilings, floors and walls have been refurbished, while artworks have been relocated, cleaned and prepared for the reopening. Additional refurbishment was unexpectedly found to be necessary, resulting in a postponement of the scheduled reopening at the start of the year.**

The Kunsthau is doing its utmost to ensure that its treasures can soon be exhibited once again in the numbers and quality that visitors are used to. Since the fire during the night of 2–3 August, Technical Services, Art Handling and the Restoration team have been working hand in hand to treat the rooms and exhibits affected. Some 700 paintings and sculptures were taken down or relocated so that they could be appraised and have traces of soot removed. Almost all of the rooms have now been cleaned, and most of the works are ready to be displayed once again. However, the buildings' owner, the Stiftung Zürcher Kunsthau, took the opportunity to commission an audit of the building fabric in the evacuated areas dating from the 1910s and 1970s, which are named after the architects who designed them.

### REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ACOUSTICS

During cleaning work, traces of asbestos were discovered on concealed building components. The good news is that no particles of asbestos were detected in the air, and consequently there was no danger to visitors or staff at any time. The Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft, which occupies and uses the property, and the Stiftung Zürcher Kunsthau agreed to carry out repairs now, before the artworks, staff and visitors return. Between the end of the Niki de Saint Phalle exhibition on 15 January and the next presentation in the large exhibition hall, access via the museum entrance at Heimplatz 1 will not be needed. This is an ideal opportunity to carry out improvements to the acoustics in the entrance hall. The ceiling will be dismantled to reduce noise and thus improve the environment for guests and staff in the vibrant Moser foyer. Access to the Kunsthau will be via the Chipperfield building (Heimplatz 5).

## COLLECTION ROOMS REOPENING IN MARCH AND APRIL

The plan is to reopen the entrance hall, along with the passage through to the Müller building in which Alberto Giacometti and Pop Art are displayed, at the start of March, followed at the start of April by the Moser building, home to the Old Masters, Swiss art and the popular works by Henry Fuseli, Ferdinand Hodler, Marc Chagall, Paul Klee, Edvard Munch and the Nabis, along with contemporary art interventions. In addition to these familiar highlights, a number of works acquired by the Kunsthaus in recent months through purchases, donations and long-term loans are likely to attract particular attention when they are displayed for the first time, among others with Ella Littwitz, Robert Rauschenberg, Hiwa K, Sylvie Fleury und Marlene McCarty.

## PLENTY TO SEE IN THE CHIPPERFIELD BUILDING

In the meantime, a substantial part of the Kunsthaus Collection (Dada, French and contemporary art) remains on show in the extension designed by David Chipperfield, along with the private collections of Hubert and Ursula Looser, Werner and Gabriele Merzbacher, and Emil Bührle. Additionally, 24 February sees the opening of the exhibition 'Fuseli. Fashion – Fetishism – Fantasy'. The richly diverse programme of exhibitions and accompanying events for 2023 is available online at [www.kunsthaus.ch](http://www.kunsthaus.ch). Kunsthaus membership comes with numerous benefits, including free admission, discounts and more: adults CHF 135 / couples CHF 225 / children and young people up to 25 years of age CHF 40.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz, CH-8001 Zurich, [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 the website.

Current price of admission to the collection: CHF 18 / CHF 14 concessions and groups. After the reopening in March CHF 23 / CHF 18. Admission free to visitors under the age of 17. Online tickets: [www.kunsthaus.ch](http://www.kunsthaus.ch)

## CONTACT FOR THE MEDIA

Media releases and illustrations are available for download at [www.kunsthaus.ch/en/medien-bereich](http://www.kunsthaus.ch/en/medien-bereich).

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