

Press release
Zurich, 10 January 2019

Kunsthaus Zürich presents Kokoschka, Matisse and the Moon landing in 2019

The Kunsthaus Zürich has made a promising start to 2019, with the current Kokoschka retrospective attracting 860 visitors a day. This year's programme offers a mixture of monographic and themed exhibitions spanning a variety of genres and eras. In early summer, Director Christoph Becker will be providing an update on the opening of the Kunsthaus extension. Despite ongoing construction work and organizational preparations for the new and expanded museum, the Kunsthaus has scheduled a full range of presentations and events.

Until 10.3.19

OSKAR KOKOSCHKA. A RETROSPECTIVE

Oskar Kokoschka (1886–1980) was an unashamed champion of figurative art. With over 200 works on display, this retrospective – the first in Switzerland for 30 years – covers every stage of the artist's career and is proving highly popular.

5.4. – 30.6.19

FLY ME TO THE MOON

The Moon landing – 50 years on. How did artists respond to this momentous event? This exhibition is a journey through the history of artists' engagement with the Moon, from the Romantic era to the present day. 100 works tackle themes such as lunar topography, moonlit night and the Moon's shadow, ailments associated with the Moon, zero gravity, propaganda and the Moon as mass media phenomenon. Our Moon Ball on Saturday 11 May promises to be a high point of the social calendar.

Supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art

17.5. – 4.8.19

GUILLAUME BRUÈRE

An obsessive artist, Frenchman Guillaume Bruère (b. 1976) always draws at great speed, creating multiple works of energetically vigorous draughtsmanship in a short space of time. Portraits are a central element of his output. Bruère often draws on site in museums and has worked at the Louvre, the Alte Pinakothek in Munich, the Gemäldegalerie in Berlin and the Kunsthaus Zürich. While here he has produced 160 drawings, no fewer than 38 of which are based on the self-portrait by van Gogh. Bruère has also visited the Schauspielhaus Zürich on a number of occasions and sketched during rehearsals. The exhibition

presents for the first time a selection from these two groups of Zurich-based works. Supported by Swiss Re – Partner for contemporary art

7.6. – 22.9.19

HOUR ZERO

Resignation and renewal in art. This exhibition examines developments in art between 1933 – a watershed year in history – and 1955. How did artists respond in their work to the historical rift created by Fascism and the Second World War? And how, between the end of the conflict and the mid-1950s, did they find new ways to give shape to existence – and indeed the existence of art itself? The Kunsthaus Collection holds answers to these questions. A parallel display presents the results of research into the origins of works acquired by the Kunsthaus for its Collection of Prints and Drawings between 1933 and 1950.

30.8. – 8.12.19

MATISSE – METAMORPHOSES

During his lifetime, Henri Matisse (1869–1954) was already hailed as both a revolutionary painter and the inventor of cut-outs. Far less known, however, is that he also modelled in clay and plaster and was keen to be recognized for his work as a sculptor. This is the starting point for the exhibition. Matisse's bronzes shift from natural to abstract forms as if by metamorphosis, a process paralleled in his paintings and drawings; this exhibition explores their relationship to the sculptures for the first time. Various sources of inspiration – nude photographs, originals from African art and Antiquity – as well as photographs showing the artist at work on his sculptures complete this focused presentation.

A contribution to culture by Credit Suisse – Partner Kunsthaus Zürich

20.9. – 5.1.20

PICASSO – GORKY – WARHOL

This presentation of sculptures and works on paper from the Hubert Looser Collection opens up a dialogue between the works on paper and the sculptures that coordinate with them. It explores the play of lines and textures on the blank surface of the drawing paper and so brings us closer to the sculptures' presence in space. On show are more than 80 key works of Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Nouveau Réalisme, Pop Art, Minimal Art and Arte Povera.

25.10. – 19.1.20

WILHELM LEIBL

The art of seeing. This first Swiss museum exhibition of drawings and paintings by Wilhelm Leibl (1844–1900) looks in particular at portraits and figural works. Supported by Courbet, influenced by Manet and admired by van Gogh, Leibl is one of the most influential figures of Realism in Europe. The exhibition, which features loans from Germany, Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Switzerland, travels to the Albertina in Vienna after it closes in Zurich.

15.11. – 9.2.20

THE NEW PHOTOGRAPHY

This collection presentation focuses on the exploration of new artistic avenues by photography during the 1970s and 1980s. The photography scene was strongly influenced by the general mood of change in contemporary art. On one side were photographers with a practical and commercial training; on the other artistic amateurs. This exhibition takes some 30 individual works and editions and uses them to set up a fascinating dialogue between those rival approaches. The end-point of the process is innovation, as photography conquers new realms and shapes the aesthetic of new media.

THE COLLECTION: ALWAYS WORTH A VISIT

Further information about the collection, the exhibition programme and the wide range of events for all age groups can be found at www.kunsthau.ch. News of the many current events can be found on Facebook, in the electronic newsletter and in the online diary. For frequent visitors keen to deepen their knowledge of art it pays to take out an annual membership, which offers preferential admission together with discounts in the restaurant and shop as well as on events.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

2018 proved to be another difficult year. Building work on the connection between the existing building and the extension made the public area in front of the museum unwelcoming. A combination of an experimental programme and a long, hot summer led to lower than expected visitor numbers. Admissions stood at just under 230,000, approximately in line with the total for 2017. More precise figures will be presented at the annual general meeting of the Kunsthaus's patron association, the Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft, at the end of May. At this point, Kunsthaus Director Christoph Becker will deliver a briefing on the opening scenario for the new Kunsthaus – the complex comprising the historic Moser building and the extension designed by David Chipperfield, with the two parts linked together by an underground passage. The entrance hall of the 1910 Moser building will reopen in September 2019 after a two-and-a-half-year closure for

rebuilding, making for a much-improved visitor experience and facilitating museum operations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kunsthaus Zürich, Heimplatz 1, CH-8001 Zurich

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

Fri-Sun/Tues 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed, Thurs 10 a.m.–8 p.m. For public holiday opening see www.kunsthhaus.ch.

Admission to the collection including audioguide (in English, German, French or Italian): CHF 16 / CHF 11 (concessions and groups). Entrance to the collection is free on Wednesdays.

Exhibitions up to CHF 23 / CHF 18 (concessions and groups). Combination tickets including the collection and exhibition CHF 26 / CHF 19. Admission free to visitors up to the age of 16. Information subject to change.

Free admission, discounts and other benefits with a 2019 annual membership: adults CHF 115 / couples CHF 195 / children and young people up to 25 years of age CHF 30.

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/kunsthhaus-zuerich.

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

NOTE TO MEDIA

Images and press releases as well as an overview of dates for media briefings in the new year can be found at www.kunsthhaus.ch > Information > Press.

For further information, contact: Kunsthhaus Zürich, Kristin Steiner
kristin.steiner@kunsthhaus.ch, tel. +41 (0)44 253 84 13