

## Exhibitions Zentrum Paul Klee

### Paul Klee and the Surrealists

18 November 2016 – 12 March 2017, Zentrum Paul Klee



The exhibition *Paul Klee and the Surrealists* provides the first opportunity ever to explore relationships between Paul Klee and Surrealist artists in 1920s and 1930s Paris. Klee's intricate and mysterious dream-like drawings and paintings were a source of deep artistic inspiration to early Surrealist visual artists such as Max Ernst and Joan Miró, as well as Surrealist writers including Louis Aragon and Paul Éluard.

Their mutual interaction is elucidated in topics such as the world as a dream, surreal machines and mechanisms, imaginary plants (*histoire naturelle*), enigmatic masks and portraits, the mystery of objects, unreal spaces and imaginary architectural structures.

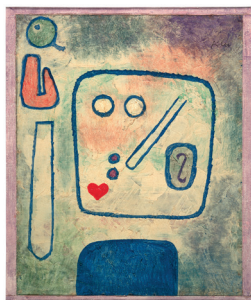
Alongside a selection of works by Paul Klee, the exhibition features a large number of Surrealist masterpieces by the likes of Max Ernst, Joan Miró, Hans Arp, Alberto Giacometti, André Masson, René Magritte, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí on loan from Centre Pompidou and other notable international museums.

In cooperation with Centre Pompidou, Paris, France.

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### Should all be known? Paul Klee. Poet and Thinker

20 January – 26 November 2017, Zentrum Paul Klee



“Should all be known? oh, I think not” – *Sollte alles denn gewusst sein? ach, ich glaube nein!* Those were the words Paul Klee inscribed on one of his very last – never completed – works.

The exhibition takes a fresh look at Klee, the painter who was also a poet, word acrobat, philosopher – and much more besides. The artist's mental and spiritual universe is explored in three different consecutive presentations.

**First presentation:** 20 January – 30 April 2017

**Second presentation:** 02 May – 13 August 2017

**Third presentation:** 15 August – 26 November 2017

The exhibition *Paul Klee. Poet and Thinker* will be accompanied by a wide range of readings, guided literary tours and philosophical panel talks.

## Paul Klee – Making the invisible visible

25 July – 27 August 2017, Zentrum Paul Klee



Referring to a statement Paul Klee famously made in 1920 in his “Creative Confession” / *Schöpferische Konfession*: “Art does not reproduce the visible; rather it makes visible” / *Die Kunst gibt nicht das Sichtbare wieder, sondern macht sichtbar*, the exhibition features thematically related treasures from Zentrum Paul Klee’s unique collection.

The act of painting is an active endeavour. Likewise, as it looks at a painting, the viewer’s eye also engages in an active process. Transcending simple object recognition, the visual act is transformed into one of productive perception, be that of movements, both physical and in terms of colour prefigured in Klee’s drawings or paintings, or of their compositional and structural principles.

A focal point in the exhibition consists of groups or series of works that enable viewers to experience the process of ‘making visible’, both intellectually and physically.

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## 10 American Artists: After Paul Klee

14 September 2017 – 07 January 2018, Zentrum Paul Klee



The exhibition 10 American Artists is the very first substantial show to illustrate the impact of Paul Klee’s work on mid-twentieth-century U.S. art. Some 80 works by ten selected American artists, including notables such as Jackson Pollock, Robert Motherwell and Mark Tobey, will bear eloquent and impressive testimony to the extent to which these artists were inspired by Klee’s artistic concepts and practices.

Klee is one of the most highly regarded Classical Modernist artists of the 20th century, and also among the most versatile. His oeuvre, which has been impossible to attribute to any specific school or style, has made a deep impression on artists in Europe and the U.S. alike.

While Klee’s works began to be collected in the U.S. as early as 1914, with exhibitions being held in the course of the 1920s, Klee only began to be noticed during the 1930s by fellow artists and, rather later on, by art historians and critics. His star ascended after his first solo show at MoMA in New York City in 1930. Alongside this institution, smaller collection museums and four competing gallery owners held regular exhibitions of Klee’s works. It was this high exposure in the 1930s and 1940s that enabled budding artists to study his originals. The attractiveness of Klee’s creations was such that, according to Clement Greenberg, America’s most influential art critic of the time, “almost everybody, whether aware of it or not, was learning from Klee”.

If Klee’s impact on that generation of young American artists has been acknowledged, the phenomenon has not so far been studied to any greater depth. This exhibition, therefore, is the first attempt to fill the research gap. Paul Klee’s works stand alongside pieces by William Baziotis, Gene Davis, Lee Gatch, Adolph Gottlieb, Robert Motherwell, Kenneth Noland, Jackson Pollock, Theodoros Stamos, Mark Tobey and Bradley Walker Tomlin.

The exhibition has been conceived and arranged in cooperation with the Phillips Collection, Washington D.C., where it will be hosted from 03 February until 06 May 2018.



Zentrum Paul Klee  
Bern

Gegründet von  
Maurice E. und Martha Müller  
sowie den Erben Paul Klee

**Annual media conference 2017**  
Kunstmuseum Bern und Zentrum Paul Klee  
Monday, December 12, 2016

**Exhibitions Zentrum Paul Klee**

## Sector Programme Zentrum Paul Klee

### Music 2017

The highly successful Master Concerts series – Meisterkonzerte will continue in 2017. Concerts will feature Canadian virtuoso pianist, Angela Hewitt, as well as star soloists, Fazil Say, piano, and Nicolas Altstaedt, cello. Russian pianist Mikhail Rudy will return to Zentrum Paul Klee for an exclusive performance in the context of *The Revolution is dead. Long live the Revolution!* (joint exhibition, Kunstmuseum Bern and Zentrum Paul Klee). Rudy will be accompanied by Brigitte Fossey, the legendary French actress. Fossey will be reading poems and prose texts dedicated to Paul Klee. Another musician to perform in the same context will be Moldovan violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja. The Signum Saxophone Quartet will perform in the context of the exhibition, *10 American Artists: After Paul Klee*.

Other musical performances will feature the tenor, Christoph Prégardien, as well as Sharon Kam, Daniel Müller-Schott, Enrico Pace, Romanian maestro Radu Lupu, piano, and several prestigious guest ensembles brought to the concert hall at Zentrum Paul Klee by partner organisations.

### Literary Programme 2017

Complementing the various exhibitions at Zentrum Paul Klee, the popular literary programme with noted authors from Switzerland and neighbouring countries continues to feature in the 2017 ZPK events calendar.

The exhibition, *Should all be known? Paul Klee. Poet and Thinker*, will be complemented by a range of readings, literary guided tours and philosophical panel talks that will focus on Paul Klee's linguistic artistry, his philosophical world view and the inspiration that major authors and philosophers drew not only from his artistic oeuvre but also from his writings.

*Y Talks*, in co-operation with the Y Institute for Transdisciplinary Studies at Bern University of the Arts, will host several leading authors and philosophers.

### Fruchtland 2017

The Zentrum Paul Klee is surrounded by 2.5 hectares of agricultural land. In 2017 the largest plot will be sown with oats, a restorative crop plant that suppresses cereal diseases and weeds alike. Among the most highly nutritious cereals, oats contain a large number of vitamins and minerals as well as plenty of food fibres. While this plant is usually grown for cattle feed, the 2017 oat harvest will be used to produce gourmet-class oatmeal. Alongside large numbers of wildflowers, newly planted flowers and indigenous shrubs and trees, as well as meadows that are especially bee and butterfly friendly, further enhance the biodiversity in the grounds of Zentrum Paul Klee.

2017 will again bring numerous educational events addressing the complex and exciting interactions between art, nature and agriculture.



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## **Creaviva 2017: Dreams, Borschtsch and Thanksgiving**

**Still – even throughout the 13th year of its existence – the joy of the artistic exploration of ideas and people forms the core of the work at the children’s museum Creaviva. Always following the topics of the exhibitions at the ZPK, a great range of offers with an inclusive aspiration addresses an audience of all generations - people to whom the engagement with art presents an opportunity to widen their view on the world.**

With its interactive exhibitions the Creaviva builds a playful bridge between the practical work at the studios and the aspiring concepts of the curators in the halls above at the ZPK. Starting April 2017 working stations with the surrealistic title: “Almost Dream” allow our audience an encounter with clichés and reality in two completely different parts of the world: Throughout spring the work at the Creaviva revolves all around the Russian artist Malewitsch and the revolutionary power of his black square. Following this impressive journey to the east, the focus in the fall will be on a creative form of Thanksgiving and all the artistic stances of the country of the never-ending “Anything goes”.

Behind all the adventures at the Creaviva there has always been the question of the essence of artistic doing. The hunt for answers to the question “What is art?” will concern us far beyond the academic positions of Platon and Danto and it will influence our practice at the studios. Therewith we wish to not only inspire our guests at the Open Studio but also to encourage teachers to engage themselves and their students with the essentials of art and culture.

More information about the Creaviva under [www.creaviva.org](http://www.creaviva.org). For further explanations about the dreams of the children’s museum, to Borschtsch and Thanksgiving please contact

Urs Rietmann, Director of the Creaviva, under 031 359 01 60 or [urs.rietmann@zpk.org](mailto:urs.rietmann@zpk.org).