

Sept. 22, 2017 – Jan. 21, 2018

The Show Must Go On

From the Museum's Collection of Contemporary Art

September 22, 2017 – January 21, 2018

Contemporary art performance, that is, ephemeral presentations that extend over a limited space of time, is becoming increasingly important in the classical canon of art. Analogous to our digital age – which is characteristically transient and dominated by an overkill of information and sensory overload – the immaterial medium of art performance finds new paths for interpreting and staging familiar things in a new light. The Kunstmuseum Bern is exploring its collection of contemporary art with a hands-on approach. The title of our new exhibition echoes, tongue-in-cheek, the message of Queen's *The Show Must Go On*, the legendary pop song of this famous British group, and pays tribute to the overriding importance of performativity in contemporary art.



Pavel Büchler
Lou Reed Live, 2008
Kunstmuseum Bern,
Kunsthalle Bern Foundation

The Show Must Go On. From the Museum's Collection of Contemporary Art is the fourth in a series of themed presentations of the collection of contemporary art at the Kunstmuseum Bern, following the exhibitions *Don't Look Now*, *Meret's Sparks*, and *Kunst heute (Recent Art)*. Toying with the demand that *The Show Must Go On*, the exhibition showcases performativity in contemporary art and has put together a sampling of works from the collection of contemporary art at the Kunstmuseum Bern. All the works in the show have been selected from the holdings and permanent loans of the Kunsthalle Bern Foundation, the GegenwART Foundation, the Bern Foundation for Photography, Film, and Video, and from the Kunstmuseum's own collection as well. The exhibition is not only presenting documentation of performances as well as props and objects featured in them. It is also showing installations with texts and sound as well as strongly spatial, ultra-large painting formats. The show explores the multifaceted ways in which performativity is manifest in art objects and how this art incites the public to perform as well.

Curator

Kathleen Bühler, Curator Contemporary Art Kunstmuseum Bern

Opening of the exhibition: Thursday, September 21, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Contact

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With the generous support of

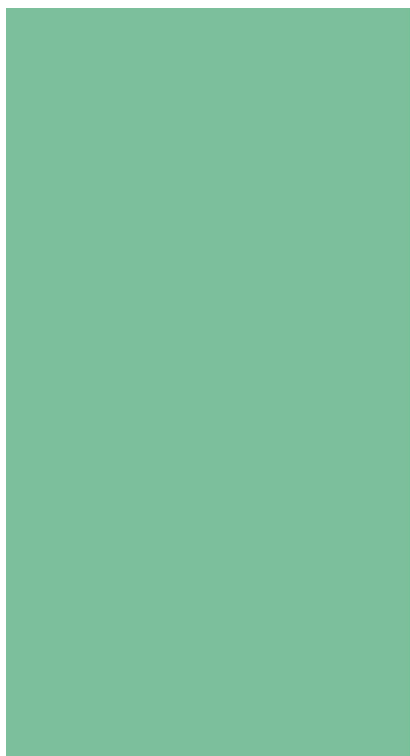
Canton of Bern

Credit Suisse

Stiftung GegenwART

Dr. h.c. Hansjörg Wyss

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Kunstmuseum Bern

The Show Must Go On
Aus der Sammlung Gegenwartskunst

Catalogue

The Show Must Go On

From the Museum's Collection of Contemporary Art

Eds. Kathleen Bühler, Nina Zimmer, Kunstmuseum Bern 2017

With essays by Kathleen Bühler, Daniel Kurjaković, Gabriel Flückiger, Matthias Frehner, Valérie Knoll, Sarah Merten, Etienne Wismer, Nina Zimmer, Isabel Zürcher.

In German, with numerous colorplates, paperback, 160 pages,

ISBN 978-3-906628-18-9

Catalogue available as **free download**

In German:

www.kunstmuseumbern.ch/TheShowKatalog

In English:

www.kunstmuseumbern.ch/TheShowCatalogue

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Supporting program of the exhibition

SUPPORTING PROGRAM

In collaboration with the BONE
Performance Festival Bern:

Performance during Lunch

Thursday, November 30 –
Saturday, December 2, 2017,
daily at 12:15 p.m.

Artists of the exhibition
meet guests of the BONE Festival
Chaired by Sibylle Omlin, artistic
co-director, BONE Festival, and
Kathleen Bühler, curator of the exhibition

Symposium «Body Now: Der Körper in der aktuellen Performance»

Saturday, December 2, 2017, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

For further information visit us at
www.kunstmuseumbern.ch/bone

**The Kunstmuseum Bern will be open
until 7:00 p.m. from November 30
to December 2.**

PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES

Sunday at the Museum

Sunday, December 10, 2017,
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Workshop for children aged 4 years and over
(up to 6 years only in the company of an adult).

«ARTUR» Kinder-Kunst-Tour

Saturday, January 13, 2018,
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Workshop for children aged 6 to 12 years*

*Bookings required
Tel.: +41 31 328 09 11,
vermittlung@kunstmuseumbern.ch

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.: September 24,
October 22, December 17, 2017,
January 21, 2018

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. October 3, 31 **
November 28, 2017, January 9, 2018

** Guided tour with Kathleen Bühler,
curator of the exhibition

INTRODUCTION FOR TEACHERS

Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Bookings required: Tel.: +41 31 328 09 11,
vermittlung@kunstmuseumbern.ch