

Exhibitions 2019 at the Zentrum Paul Klee

(The program may be subject to change)

19.10.2018 – 17.03.2019

Paul Klee. Animality



For the first time, a Paul Klee exhibition provides a glimpse of the relationship between humans and animals. As a precise observer, he often discovered the animal in human beings, and the human being in animals, and reversed the traditional roles. In his works humans «turn animal», while animals display human traits. Like the authors of antique animal fables, Klee comments on political events through wildlife, and his zoological scenes humorously show us human behaviour. Paul Klee thought intensely about the roles and nature of animals and human beings and commented critically upon their qualities. The exhibition persuades us to think about the relationship between people and animals today.

Taxidermy exhibits from the Naturhistorisches Museum Bern augment the exhibition.

17.11.2018 – 03.03.2019

Emil Nolde



Emil Nolde ranks among the most well-known artists of the 20th century. He is also one of the most important proponents of Expressionism. His art is distinguished by an unparalleled intensity of color. Like many of his contemporaries in the early 20th century, he sought a new pictorial language that broke from naturalistic representation. Regardless of how Nolde encountered the unfamiliar or the “other”, it helped him to advance his work and liberate it from norms and customs. This exhibition presents a selection of 150 works by the artist and sheds light on these and other themes in his oeuvre.

The friendship and communication between Emil Nolde and Paul Klee will be addressed for the very first time in photographs and the correspondence of the two artists. Organized in close collaboration with the Nolde Stiftung Seebüll, objects from ethnographic collections help to make the exhibition complete.

19.03. – 01.09.2019

**Kandinsky, Arp, Picasso ...
Klee & Friends**



For the first time Paul Klee and his impressive circle of friends are being presented in an extensive exhibition with works from the collection of the Kunstmuseum Bern and the Zentrum Paul Klee. Like all artists, Klee relied upon a broad network of connections and his encounters with his artist friends left reciprocal traces in many different ways in the artists' thought and work.

The exhibition includes highlights from the work of Paul Klee and his most important artist friends, including those from the Blaue Reiter and the Bauhaus, as well as those involved in the movements of Surrealism, Cubism and Dadaism, with works by Wassily Kandinsky, Franz Marc, Gabriele Münter, Alexej von Jawlensky, Sonia and Robert Delaunay, Pablo Picasso, Hans Arp and Sophie Taeuber-Arp as well as André Masson.

04.04. – 04.08.2019

Ecstasy



A desire for moments of intense pleasure and passion is a universal feature of human existence. This exhibition explores the great diversity of ecstatic phenomena and traces their changing cultural meanings and representations in visual art.

The exhibition presents an extraordinary set of works by renowned modern and contemporary artists like Marina Abramović, Louise Bourgeois, Marlene Dumas, Meret Oppenheim, Auguste Rodin, Henri Michaux, Andy Warhol and Paul Klee. They depict ecstasy as a bodily and emotional state that defies representation – somewhere between life and death, asceticism and excess, pleasure and pain, suspension and fall, creativity and madness, liberation and dependency.

The exhibition is a collaboration between the Kunstmuseum Stuttgart and the Zentrum Paul Klee.

In cooperation with Dampfzentrale Bern, Universität Bern, Polit-Forum Bern, Kino REX, Lichtspiel / Kinemathek Bern, Berner Münster et al. a diverse public program is being created, with the aim of exploring and making the ecstasy visible in its artistic, literary, social and political dimensions.

23.08.2019 – 24.05.2020

Beyond laughing and crying: Klee and Sonderegger



In Paul Klee's work cheerfulness and tragedy, lightness and the plunge into the abyss often tip into one another. The exhibition sheds light on the exchange between Paul Klee and his friend Jacques Ernst Sonderegger, a Swiss artist, cartoonist, author and collector. In the early phase of his work Klee received important artistic stimuli from Sonderegger. Their correspondence reveals a shared understanding of humour as a key to human beings, of satire as a commentary on the comedy and tragedy of human existence. The exhibition shows selected works by Klee and Sonderegger in dialogue, and offers a context for the first publication of their correspondence.

20.09.2019 – 12.01.2020

bauhaus imaginista



Bauhaus had no less a goal than to combine art and life when it was founded in 1919. This utopia was to be implemented in reality in concrete terms. Art and design were central to this view of the world and played a transformative role. From the very beginning it was a revolutionary enterprise that wished to be generally valid for society on the whole. The Bauhaus involved the transgression of boundaries between the disciplines and genres as well as those between the crafts and industry and nationality. The Bauhaus was a cosmopolitan project with its students and teachers coming from many nations, among them Swiss artist Johannes Itten and Bernese artist Paul Klee. Bauhaus ideas spread throughout the world, transforming the latter after the war. *Bauhaus imaginista* is devoted to this aspect and focuses on the international presence of the Bauhaus after its historic end in 1933 when it was closed down by the Nazis. The exhibition foregrounds Bauhaus reception in Japan, Brazil, China, Morocco, India, Nigeria, Russia and the United States of America, zeroing in on how, in the different geopolitical regions, local debates and notions about form adopted and transformed Bauhaus concepts and practices, and, not least, led to new institutions and reform movements in other places in the world.

This is a joint project of the Bauhaus Dessau, Weimar and Berlin together with Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin.