



**For the first time, the Kunstmuseum Bern is showing the entire collection of the Stiftung Expressionismus (Expressionism Foundation)**

The exhibition *Stiftung Expressionismus. From Gabriele Münter to Sam Francis* is showing the collection of the Stiftung Expressionismus (Expressionism Foundation), associated with the Kunstmuseum Bern, in its entirety for the first time. The collection consists of 25 outstanding works, and was assembled by the Bern family of Hans Rudolf and Silvia Tschumi. The portfolio includes expressive positions from a whole century with focuses on German and Swiss expressionism as well as international expressive post-war art. The presentation can be seen from 5.12.2025 until 5.7.2026.

The son of the Bern collectors Walter and Gertrud Hadorn (-Tschumi), Hans Rudolf Tschumi came from an artistically inclined family which had already made a generous gift to the Kunstmuseum Bern in 1977. In the 1990s, Hans Rudolf Tschumi and his wife Silvia started acquiring art themselves. The starting point was their shared enthusiasm for the expressive painting of representatives of *Informal* and *Neue Wilde*. In lively dialogue with experts from the world of galleries and museums, they increasingly turned their attention to works of German and Swiss expressionism. Thus began the assembly of a collection.

In 2007, they finally established the Stiftung Expressionismus with the aim of closing gaps in the holdings of the Kunstmuseum Bern and making their collection accessible to the public. Over the years, the initial group of 15 works grew to a total of 25, made between 1906 and 1994. As a result, the portfolio came to encompass works from an entire century – united in their determination to overcome the aesthetic conventions of their time.

The exhibition is divided into three sections that characterise the collection of the Foundation:

### **German expressionism**

The exhibition begins with impressive works by the German artists' groups *Die Brücke* and *Der Blaue Reiter*. Works displayed include paintings by Emil Nolde, Max Pechstein, Heinrich Campendonk, Gabriele Münter and Marianne von Werfkin, who revolutionised the art of the early 20th century with their expressive pictorial language.

### **Swiss expressionism**

These are followed by works by Swiss expressionists, including intensely colourful landscapes and portraits by Albert Müller and Hermann Scherer. Both artists belonged to the Basel artists' group *Rot-Blau*. Their works reflect the autonomous development of expressionism in Switzerland.

### **International expressive post-war art**

The final part consists of expressive positions of international art after 1945. Works by Karel Appel, Sam Francis and Teruko Yokoi clearly reveal how the expressive tradition was continued and reinterpreted beyond the borders of Europe.

The permanent loans of the Expression Foundation constitute a considerable expansion of the Kunstmuseum Berns collection by outstanding works. The Kunstmuseum Bern is deeply grateful to the founders and their family for their invaluable commitment and generosity.

The exhibition is devoted to the memory of the donor Hans Rudolf Tschumi (1928–2025) and to the donor Silvia Tschumi.

To accompany the exhibition *Stiftung Expressionismus. From Gabriele Münter to Sam Francis*, the Kunstmuseum Bern is showing neo-expressive works by Leiko Ikemura, Miriam Cahn, Martin Sisler, Mimmo Paladino and Michael Buthe from its own holdings.

#### **Curator**

Anne-Christine Strobel

#### **Guided tours**

All guided tour dates and further information at:

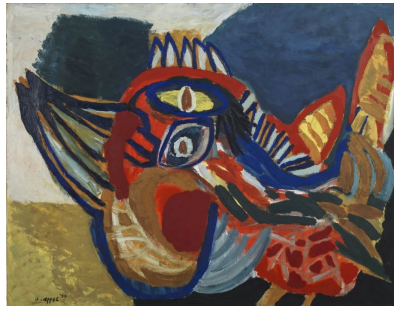
[kunstmuseumbern.ch/en/ausstellung/expressionism-foundation](https://kunstmuseumbern.ch/en/ausstellung/expressionism-foundation)

## Press images

### Download press images:

[kunstmuseumbern.ch/press](http://kunstmuseumbern.ch/press)

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**01**

### Karel Appel

*Le coq furieux* [The furious rooster], 1952  
Oil on textile support  
89 × 116 cm  
Stiftung Expressionismus at the  
Kunstmuseum Bern



**02**

### Karl Schmidt-Rottluff

*Gelber Blumenstrauß* [Yellow Bouquet], 1906  
Oil on canvas  
50 × 60 cm  
Stiftung Expressionismus at the  
Kunstmuseum Bern



**03**

### Gabriele Münter

*Blumen vor Bildern* [Flowers in front of paintings], 1910  
Oil on textile support  
70,5 × 49,5 cm  
Stiftung Expressionismus at the  
Kunstmuseum Bern



**04**

### Heinrich Campendonk

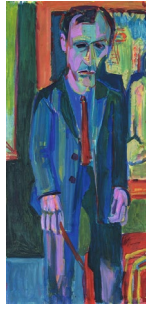
*Reitender Knabe* [Boy on horseback], around 1918  
Oil on textile support  
64,5 × 40,8 × 2,1 cm  
Stiftung Expressionismus at the  
Kunstmuseum Bern



**05**

### Marianne von Werefkin

*En ville* [In town], 1924  
Oil on paper on cardboard  
78 × 75,5 cm  
Stiftung Expressionismus at the  
Kunstmuseum Bern



**06**

**Albert Müller**

*Bildnis Hermann Scherer* [Portrait of Hermann Scherer], 1925

Oil on canvas

150 × 170 cm

Stiftung Expressionismus at the Kunstmuseum Bern



**07**

**Hermann Scherer**

*Villa Loverciana*, 1925/26

Oil on canvas

80 × 120 cm

Stiftung Expressionismus at the Kunstmuseum Bern

## Current and upcoming exhibitions at the Kunstmuseum Bern

Kirchner x Kirchner  
until 11 January 2026

Panorama Switzerland. From Caspar Wolf to Ferdinand Hodler  
until 7 July 2026

### Opening hours

Tuesday  
10:00–20:00

Wednesday–Sunday  
10:00–17:00

Monday closed

### Opening hours on holidays

Wednesday, **24 December 2025**: closed

Thursday, **25 December 2025**: closed

Friday, **26 December 2025**: 10:00–17:00

Wednesday, **31 December 2025**: 10:00–17:00

Thursday, **1 January 2026**: 10:00–17:00

Friday, **2 January 2026**: 10:00–17:00

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### Accreditation for media representatives

Admission to all exhibitions at the Kunstmuseum Bern is free for media representatives with a valid press card. Please fill in the digital accreditation form which you can either access via [kunstmuseumbern.ch/en/press/media-accreditation](https://kunstmuseumbern.ch/en/press/media-accreditation) or by screening the QR-Code before your visit.

