

As a step towards broadening horizons, Pro Helvetia is extending its reach to the Middle Kingdom and is currently seeking projects for its «China 2008-2010» programme. The aim is to give fresh impetus to the Swiss-Chinese cultural exchange. Elsewhere, two Swiss authors are also set to explore fresh territory abroad, with Pro Helvetia paving the way for them to spend time writing in New York and Johannesburg respectively. Up-and-coming visual artists now have the opportunity to apply for a «Cahier d'artiste» to be created on their behalf. Find out more in this Newsletter about Pro Helvetia's projects and the invitations for application.

Pro Helvetia Communications

LATEST NEWS
THE ARTS COUNCIL
TIPS
COLOPHON

LATEST NEWS

Two Swiss authors abroad

At the invitation of Pro Helvetia, Alain Claude Sulzer will be spending two months at the German House in New York this spring working on his new book, following the recent publication of his latest novel, «Privatstunden» (private lessons). «Ein perfekter Kellner», an earlier work, is set to be published in English by Bloomsbury under the title «A Perfect Waiter». Writer, film maker and visual artist Olivier Sillig will receive a grant for a stay in Johannesburg, during which he will be presenting two short films in Pretoria.



Electronic music in Cape Town

Swiss experimental musicians Jason Kahn and Joke Sudden Infant have been invited to the second Unyazi Festival for electronic music in South Africa. The motto is «Fear of the Known», so the festival is sure to unleash some less known sounds in Cape Town between 12 and 16 March. Its aim is to promote contemporary electronic composition and performance in South Africa and to provide a platform for experimental musicians and sound artists. Further information is available [here](#).



Gilgamesh epic in Zurich

Zurich-based composer Gérard Zinsstag has fashioned a full-scale musical drama out of the ancient Gilgamesh epic involving speakers, instruments and dancers. The text parts in German are based on the translation by Raoul Schrott, the music will be performed by the Ensemble Pléiade together with the Centre International de Percussion and conducted by Jean-Paul Odiou. The premiere at the Schiffbau Zürich theatre is scheduled for 8 February. Click [here](#) for further information.



Photography in Macedonia

The Macedonian Centre for Photography is staging an international conference on 7 and 8 March. Under the heading «Photography as Part of the Artistic Concept», experts from Macedonia, Serbia and Switzerland will be discussing the role of photography in contemporary art. Young photographers from Macedonia will exhibit documentary work they produced in cooperation-project courses held within the framework of the Swiss Cultural Programme in the Western Balkans. www.pro-helvetia.org.mk



Dancing through Cairo

Swiss dancer and choreographer Foofwa d'Imobilité uses bustling city streets as a stage for his interactive performances. In Cairo, he will be presenting his «dancerun performance Kilometrix» on 21 and 22 March. His dancing jaunt will take him through Cairo's Zamalek district. On the way, he will stop in public gardens for dance

performances accompanied by live music. For details see www.prohelvetia.org.eg and www.foofwa.com.



THE ARTS COUNCIL

Cultural projects with Chinese participation

In connection with its «China 2008-2010» programme, Pro Helvetia is seeking projects from all art disciplines that will promote cultural exchange between Switzerland and China. Swiss artists planning to realise a joint project with Chinese partners are invited to apply. The deadline for applications is 12 May. Click [here](#) for further information.



First-time publication for visual artists

With its «Collection cahiers d'artistes» (artist monographs), Pro Helvetia is enabling up-and-coming visual artists to publish a first documentation of their art work, giving them an ideal opportunity to make a name for themselves at home and abroad. The application deadline for the next series of monographs is 21 April. You will find further information and the conditions for participation [here](#).



A beautiful neighbour to visit Switzerland

Last year, cultural practitioners from Switzerland presented their work in France as the first part of Pro Helvetia's «La belle voisine» programme. In the spring of 2009, it will be the turn of artists from the French Rhône-Alpes region and from a variety of disciplines to visit Switzerland. Projects can now be submitted. Please go to www.labellevoisine.fr for application details.



TIPS

Choral music from Western Switzerland

Kaléidoschoral, a gala concert in Saint-Maurice (Canton of Valais) on 1 March, will feature ten choirs from the French-speaking part of Switzerland that together represent a broad variety of styles. Some of the pieces to be performed have been composed specifically for this event. Kaléidoschoral aims to stimulate debate on tradition and innovation in the field of choral music. The event is part of Pro Helvetia's «echoes - folk culture for tomorrow» programme. Click [here](#) for further information.



Blickfelder - theatre for a young generation

Under the motto «Heaven or Hell» the international children's and youth theatre festival Blickfelder will be presenting a broad range of plays, performances and installations from Switzerland and abroad, targeted at children and youths of various age groups. The venues are in Zurich, Berne, Chur, Steckborn and Schaan; the festival lasts from 5 to 16 March. A special event for organisers and other interested parties featuring exclusively Swiss productions is scheduled for 13/14 March. www.blickfelder.ch



COLOPHON

Arts Council of Switzerland
Communication
Hirschengraben 22
8024 Zurich
E-Mail: communication@prohelvetia.ch
www.prohelvetia.ch

Editor: Janine Messerli

Translations: Martin Striegel

Pro Helvetia supports and promotes Swiss culture in Switzerland and throughout the world.

[\[Newsletter Archive\]](#) [\[Newsletter unsubscribe\]](#) [\[Change profile\]](#)