



Mountains are definitely attractive in winter, but cities can be so too. This is, for instance, an ideal time to visit museums. The range on offer is impressive and our Newsletter presents some of the highlights: contemporary art from the Orient at the Zentrum Paul Klee in Berne, Lutz & Guggisberg at the Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris, and Thomas Huber at the Kunsthalle Tübingen. We also spotlight promising and stimulating cultural projects from a variety of fields. They, too, can be enjoyed without exposure to snow and ice.

Pro Helvetia Communications

THE ARTS COUNCIL
PROJECTS
PUBLICATIONS
CALL FOR PROJECTS
PRO HELVETIA LINKS
COLOPHON

THE ARTS COUNCIL

New start in Paris

A new era is about to set in at the Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris. On 14 February, the Centre's doors will open for the first season under Jean-Paul Felley and Olivier Kaeser. The two art historians, in charge since 1 October 2008, like to compare the cultural centre to a bee hive. Besides the production and presentation of art, the place is also intended as a meeting point for artists, specialists and audiences, where arts-related themes can be explored and discussed. A revamped website and a new magazine entitled «Le Phare» shall be launched in conjunction with the inaugural programme. [More...](#)

centre culturel suisse · paris

New management appointment

On 1 January 2009, Andrew Holland took over as Head of the Funding and Cultural Promotion Division at Pro Helvetia. He also assumed the position of Deputy Director, following on to Thomas Gartmann in accordance with Pro Helvetia's principle of rotation. After serving his two-year term as Deputy Director, Mr Gartmann will again concentrate fully on his job as head of the music department. In his new role, Andrew Holland is now a member of Pro Helvetia's management. He remains head of the dance department. [More information at...](#)



Swiss Cultural Programme Western Balkans (SCP) launches new projects

In Sarajevo, the new SCP regional office will introduce the first four cooperation projects chosen for the coming three years on 20 February. Cultural practitioners from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia will take part at the launching ceremony. Pro Helvetia manages the cultural programme in the Western Balkans on behalf of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Further details at www.scp-ba.net



PROJECTS

Encounters with the Orient of today

The East has always been a source of fascination and inspiration. The Zentrum Paul Klee in Berne is now dedicating a three-part series of exhibitions to this phenomenon. The second part, «Dream and Reality», will be on show from 28 February to 6 August presenting videos, installations and other works by contemporary artists from the countries of the Middle East. The exhibition includes pieces by five Swiss artists who worked in Cairo as artists in residence. More at www.paulkleezentrum.ch.



Young Swiss dramatists for Polish stages

At the «Swiss Drama Night» on 9 March, pieces by three young Swiss

dramatists will be played to Polish audiences for the first time. Young translators are currently translating recent plays by Reto Finger, Daria Stocker and Daniela Janjic into Polish, under the critical eye of Slawa Lisiecka in a programme jointly realised by the Dramatyczny Theatre in Warsaw, Pro Helvetia Warsaw and the Agencja Dramatu theatre agency. Further details at www.prohelvetia.pl.



Lutz & Guggisberg installation in Paris

Andres Lutz & Anders Guggisberg have created an installation developed specifically for the premises at the Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris. Meticulously and affectionately arranged objects entice viewers with the secret stories they tell. This is the artist duo's first solo exhibition in Paris and is scheduled to run from 14 February to 19 April. Also on at the centre in the coming weeks and months are concerts, readings, films, dance and theatre performances, and roundtable discussions. Details can be found at www.prohelvetia.ch.



Anna Spina brings stardust to the stage

Anna Spina's instrumental theatre «Poussières d'Etoiles» (stardust) combines well-known contemporary pieces for viola and violin (by Jürg Wyttenbach, Heinz Holliger, Alfred Zimmerlin and others) with imaginative live video interventions. The Berne-based viola player's demanding solo programme is on at the Theater Winterthur (16 March), the Musikpodium Zürich (27 March) and the Festival Archipel in Geneva (20-29 March), then moves on to Germany and France. Details at www.annaspina.ch and www.theater.winterthur.ch.



Thomas Huber's «rauten traurig» in Tübingen

Diagonal lines cross to form rhombi in Thomas Huber's oil paintings, which are on display at the Kunsthalle Tübingen up to 19 April. The exhibition also features watercolours and sketchbooks, all produced in the past five years. The pictures of this Swiss painter born in 1955 play games with viewers. Painted rooms beckon yet remain inaccessible. Promises not kept make us sad. «rauten traurig» (literally: rhombi sad) is a travelling exhibition due to be staged at various European museums. More at www.kunsthalle-tuebingen.de



Blickfelder - dancing for a young audience

The Blickfelder theatre festival for kids and teens has been dancing out of line once every two years since 2005. Seven dance productions tailored to the taste of young audiences of various age groups will be shown in Zurich from 5 March to 3 April. The festival also features numerous workshops. Participants include Foofwa d'Imobilité, Teatrodanza Arnaboldi and Brigitta Schrepfer's Somafon. The programme in detail can be found at www.blickfelder.ch



Leo Tuor and Robert Walser at the Leipzig Book Fair

Swiss literature will be well represented at the Leipzig Book Fair from 12 to 15 March. On the invitation of Pro Helvetia, Rhaeto-Romanic author Leo Tuor will read from his works at the «Kleine Sprachen - grosse Literaturen» festival (14 March, 14:00). Peripheral languages will, for once, be at the centre of attention. Special attention also goes to Robert Walser in an exhibition to be held at the stand of the «Schweizerischer Buchhändler- und Verlegerverband» (Swiss book sellers and publishers association). Details at www.leipziger-buchmesse.de



PUBLICATIONS

Neue Webseite: www.traduki.eu

Traduki is a network for literature linking Austria, Germany and Switzerland as well as eleven South East European countries. Pro Helvetia is one of the initiators of this project, which includes a translation programme aimed at promoting the exchange of children's and youth literature among the participating countries. The Traduki website is now available in German and English. www.traduki.eu



CALL FOR PROJECTS

Support agreements with publishers

Pro Helvetia is combining the promotion of publishers and translation with the aim of boosting the presence of Swiss literature beyond the confines of the various linguistic regions. The model of support agreements with publishers was designed in connection with «Moving Words», a programme to encourage the translation of Swiss literature. Pro Helvetia has earmarked an annual CHF 200,000 for these support agreements, which are concluded for a term of two years. Literary publishers from all parts of Switzerland can apply. The deadline is 31 March 2009. Application details and forms are available at www.prohelvetia.ch.



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