

New music heard on the banks of Lake Zurich; weird sounds coming from the Alps in the Canton of Uri; masked New Year figures and musicians from Appenzell parading through an Austrian village; spontaneous and improvised music-making a whole night long in the Basel Jura mountain region... Music effortlessly overcomes geographic and mental boundaries. Pro Helvetia encourages such initiatives and is supporting the "Tonkünstlerfest" in Zurich (10 to 15 July), the "Alpentöne" festival in Altdorf (17 to 19 August), "Glatt&Verkehrt" in Krams (15 to 29 July) and the music festival in Rümlingen (24 and 25 August). And as every year, summer is also a time of theatre festivals. The choice is yours.

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LATEST NEWS

New music in Zurich

More than a dozen organisers of European festivals of contemporary music will be coming to the "Tonkünstlerfest" (sound artists festival) in Zurich. The motto of the event is "passages". It is organised jointly by the "Schweizerischer Tonkünstlerverein" and Pro Helvetia. From 10 to 15 July 2007, audiences will be given the choice of numerous chamber music groups and ensembles specialising in contemporary music. The 18th International Congress of the Musicological Society (IMS) is scheduled to take place at the same time.

www.asm-stv.ch



Questioning familiar signs and symbols

The "echoes – folk culture for tomorrow" programme has a new highlight in store. An exhibition entitled "Zeichen zeigen" (Signs and Symbols) will be launched at the Nidwaldner Museum in Stans on 23 June. The exhibition deals with religious beliefs and images in Central Switzerland and examines their impact on daily life and cultural creation. The "GlaubensKultur" (culture of faith) project, set up in collaboration with "echoes", is supplemented by framework events in all cantons of Central Switzerland. www.prohelvetia.ch



Cape Town Book Fair

The motto of the Cape Town Book Fair from 16 to 19 June 2007 is "More than Black on White". As one of this year's highlights, the Publisher's Association of South Africa (PASA) and the Frankfurt Book Fair are organising a seminar on the topic of international licence trading. Swiss authors Nadine Hostettler and Daniel de Roulet will be taking part at the fair's reading festival. Pro Helvetia and its Cape Town liaison office are supporting the event, as is the Swiss Embassy in Pretoria and the Swiss association of book sellers and publishers (SBVV). www.prohelvetia.org.za



Unusual sounds from up in the mountains

17 to 19 August will see the fifth edition of the "Alpentöne" (alpine sounds) in Altdorf. Musicians from European alpine nations will come together in an open and family-like atmosphere to present contemporary, authentic and innovative musical projects. "Alpentöne" stands for folk music that, far removed from any kitschy stereotype, seeks out musical roots and combines them with modern forms of jazz, classical, avant-garde and rock music.

www.alpentoene.ch



Arts marathon in three castles

"Mutamenti" is a large multi-disciplinary cultural happening spread over the three "castelli" of Bellinzona. On 24 and 25 August the

castles will, for the first time, act as joint organisers of a cultural event. An exhibition will be showing some of the latest artistic trends on the subject of globalisation. The programme also includes concerts, discussions, an evening of literature and a conference cycle all dedicated to the same topic. "Mutamenti" also represents the closing project of "Gallerie 57/34.6 km", Pro Helvetia's programme in connection with tunnel building in Switzerland.

www.prohelvetia.ch

Photographic discoveries in Poland

The Transfotografia International Photo Festival of 10 August to 20 September is a new festival staged annually in the three Polish cities of Gdansk, Sopot and Gdynia. 55 artists from Switzerland, Central and Eastern Europe and other European nations will be displaying their work in over 20 galleries and in public spaces. This year's festival will be dedicated to the topics of borders and border crossings.

www.transfotografia.com



THE ARTS COUNCIL

Pro Helvetia bill presented by Federal Council

On 8 June, the Swiss Federal Council presented the revised bills for a new Arts and Culture Promotion Act and a revised Pro Helvetia Act. The bills provide the basis for a fundamental organisational reform of the Arts Council. Pro Helvetia regrets that the Confederation will no longer directly support creative artistic projects, but hopes to close this gap through new forms of cooperation with the cantons. The two bills are now due for parliamentary debate. www.bak.admin.ch



New Board of Trustees member

Mathieu Menghini has been appointed as a new member of Pro Helvetia's Board of Trustees by the Federal Council. He will succeed Jean-Yves Pidoux, who has laid down his mandate following his election to Lausanne's municipal government. Mathieu Menghini, born in 1972, is a historian with broad experience in the world of arts. He is currently director of the Forum Meyrin Theatre. Previous positions include director of the Théâtre du Crochetan, cultural representative of the city of Monthey, director of drama at the Centre Culturel Neuchâtelois and jury member for the "Schweizer KleinKunstPreis".



TIPS

New folk music in Krems (A)

The renowned "Glatt&Verkehrt" festival will be held in Krems, a small Austrian town on the Danube, from 15 to 29 July. This year's edition is dedicated to present-day world music with its crossovers as well as other contemporary musical trends. Noldi Alder & Ensemble together with a group of "Silvesterkläuse" (masked new-year figures) from Urnäsch in the Canton of Appenzell will be presenting a premiere from Switzerland entitled, in local dialect, "Zaure, Joole, Juuze ond Ruggusserle" on 26 July.

www.glattundverkehrt.at



Dance and fine art in Berne

During this year's "Berner Tanztage", PROGR, in collaboration with the new Bernese gallery MADONNA # FUST, will be organising an accompanying fine art programme called "Classe de Danse". The international group exhibition is on display until 23 June and provides a platform for two artists invited over from India, Sonia Khurana and Tushar Joag. Pro Helvetia is supporting this exhibition.

www.progr.ch



Nocturnal music experience

"musikFabrik NRW" and five composers from Nordrhein-Westfalen in Germany have been invited to the Rümlingen music festival (Canton of

Basel-Land) on 24 and 25 August. One whole night long, from dusk to dawn, musicians will be passing by the audience in processions accompanied by special objects and artificial lights. The event is one of the products of the "Plattform Schweiz - Kultur mit Nordrhein-Westfalen" programme. Pro Helvetia is supporting the Swiss installations and world premieres involved.

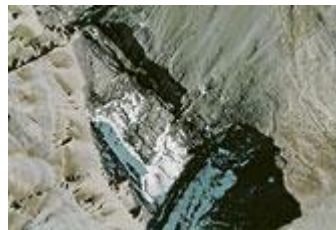
www.neue-musik-ruemlingen.ch



Literature with a view

Why not gain insights into the world of contemporary German-language literature at an altitude of 1411 metres above sea level? The 12th International Literature Festival in Leukerbad from 29 June to 1 July makes this possible. Rock, water, soil and air are natural players at the festival. The main focus, however, will be on over two dozen authors from Switzerland, Austria and Germany. Other guest writers are expected from Ukraine, Spain, the UK and France.

www.literaturfestival.ch



Outlook on a summer of theatre

Theatre lovers can look forward to a whole row of interesting summer theatre festivals. Fribourg will be the first in line with its "Belluard Bollwerk International" (www.belluard.ch) from 28 June to 7 July. Next comes the "Festival des Arts Vivants" in Nyon (www.festival-far.ch) from 8 to 18 August, followed by the "Zürcher Theater Spektakel" (www.theaterspektakel.ch) from 16 August to 2 September. Those wishing to combine theatre with a trip abroad should head for Buenos Aires, where the "Zyklus neuer Dramatik" is being held, organised by the local Goethe Institute from 3 to 4 September (www.goethe.de/buenosaires).



Current exhibitions

The Tate Modern in London (www.tate.org.uk) is staging a group exhibition entitled "Learn to Read" with, among others, Anne-Lise Coste and Vittorio Santoro. It is on display from 19 June to 2 September. The "Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center" in Istanbul (www.platform.garanti.com.tr) will open a new photo exhibition called "Photography Istanbul, Laurence Bonvin and Juul Hondius" on 23 June. The exhibition ends on 11 August. From 16 June to 8 September, New York's "Artistsspace" (www.artistsspace.org) is showing works by Aloïs Godinat, Jean-Christophe Huguenin, Alexandre Charlet and Körner Union. The exhibition is entitled "Curating Degree Zero Archive".



COLOPHON

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