

Swiss arts are on stage or on show all around the globe. Music groups from Zurich will be performing in Moscow, new Swiss films are presented in Peru, and Munich's «Spielart» festival is hosting a number of Swiss theatre productions. Such international cultural exchange gives rise to valuable networks, which foster mutual insights and spark new ideas and projects. Bolstering Swiss artistic presence abroad will be one of Pro Helvetia's focal points in the near future, besides cross-cultural arts promotion.

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## LATEST NEWS

### Blog on folk culture

Folk culture in Switzerland is experiencing a veritable renaissance, be it at «Schwingen» meetings (traditional Swiss wrestling), alpine sound events or «Ländler» folk music festivals. Is this revival occurring at the expense of contemporary art? Or is it merely the latest trend in the global arts context? What does folk culture actually mean? Join the discussion on [www.blog-volkskultur.ch](http://www.blog-volkskultur.ch)! Pro Helvetia supports this independent platform and looks forward to a lively debate!



### Zurich meets Moscow

Individual musicians as well as groups and ensembles from the city and canton of Zurich representing a wide range of music styles will be taking the stage at the International Performing Arts Center in Moscow in the first week of November. The Russian capital is, in a loose sequence, playing host to a number of European cultural cities. Pro Helvetia helped design and fund the programme of the Zurich Cultural Week. Further information can be found [here](#).



### Jazz festival «onze-plus» in Lausanne

The «onze-plus» jazz festival is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year with a wide range of musical highlights. The anniversary's organisers, together with Pro Helvetia, have invited festival directors from various European countries to acquaint them with the Swiss jazz scene. And around 130 musicians, 50 of them from Switzerland, will be filling the Casino de Montbenon in Lausanne with the sound of jazz from 20 to 28 October. [www.jazzonzeplus.ch](http://www.jazzonzeplus.ch)



### New artist monographs

Six Swiss artists and one art collective, selected by an independent jury, will each have a «Cahier d'Artiste», an artist monograph, dedicated to their work. With this first publication to their name, Pro Helvetia is enabling talented young artists to boost their reputation at home and abroad. Works by these artists are on display at the Fri-Art centre in Fribourg up to 25 November. More information at [www.fri-art.ch](http://www.fri-art.ch) and Pro Helvetia [Pro Helvetia](#).



### Aerowaves 2007

The «Aerowaves» network serves as a platform for the exchange of information on young dancers and dance groups in Europe. An international jury consisting of festival managers, organisers and independent dance practitioners from Europe will be meeting at the Theaterhaus Gessnerallee from 25 to 28 October to choose 10 short pieces from around 300 DVDs submitted. These pieces will subsequently be presented at a dance festival in London. [www.aerowaves.org](http://www.aerowaves.org)



### Swiss films on tour in Peru

The programme «Pastores, amantes y sueños» designed by Swiss Films is set to present 25 recent Swiss feature films, documentaries and animated films in Peru. From 1 November to 9 December, they will be on show in large-scale digital format in Lima and various provinces. Swiss Films, mandated by Pro Helvetia and the Swiss Federal Office of Culture, is a promotion agency for films made in Switzerland. Click [here](#) for further information.



### Horn Please! - Indian art in Berne

«Horn Please - Narratives in Contemporary Indian Art» presents the works of 32 Indian artists. The exhibition at the **Museum of Fine Arts** in Berne spans three decades of artistic production from the 1980s to the present day. Support and advice was provided by Pro Helvetia's liaison office in New Delhi. The exhibition is being flanked by a series of films, performances and literary events. It is scheduled to run from 20 September 2007 to 6 January 2008.

[www.prohelvetia.in](http://www.prohelvetia.in)



### From anonymity to intimacy

The Swiss Institute in New York will be presenting the first joint project by the two artists Walter Pfeiffer and Tom Burr from 14 November to 18 January. The exhibition unites pictures by Swiss photographer Pfeiffer and installations by the American Burr that explore the gap between the anonymous and the intimate. A showcase event for the Swiss Institute, whose mission it is to foster dialogue and exchange between Swiss and American artists.

[www.swissinstitute.net](http://www.swissinstitute.net)



### Spielart - theatre festival in Munich

The country spotlight at this year's «Spielart» theatre festival in Munich is on Switzerland. The festival opens with «Stifters Dinge» by Heiner Goebbels, a Théâtre Vidy-Lausanne production. Invitations also went out to «Plasma», a group from Zurich presenting «Delirium» and «Tip of the tongue», and to Zurich's Schauspielhaus theatre, which will stage «Fathers» by Alvis Hermanis and «Tonic» by Simone Aughterlony. «Spielart» is scheduled for 15 November to 1 December. [www.spielart.org](http://www.spielart.org)



## THE ARTS COUNCIL

### New liaison office head in Cape Town

Jasper Walgrave became head of Pro Helvetia's liaison office in Cape Town on 1 October. For many years, he was involved in a variety of projects of cultural exchange between Europe and southern Africa. From 2003 to 2006 he worked at the South African Department of Arts and Culture in Pretoria with a mandate from the Flemish development agency WOB. He subsequently built up the contemporary performance organisation «Nyakaza» in Soweto.

[www.prohelvetia.org.za](http://www.prohelvetia.org.za)



### Financing of Pro Helvetia 2008-2011

Pro Helvetia aims to strengthen Swiss cultural presence abroad. For the 2008-2011 funding period, it has placed the emphasis on cross-cultural arts promotion and forging contacts with new cultural regions. It applied to Parliament for a credit of CHF 143.8 million. The National Council (lower chamber) adopted the Federal Government's position and cut the amount back to CHF 135 million. The Council of States (upper chamber) will decide in December. Click [here](#) for more information.



### Permanent dance conference

The «ständige Konferenz Tanz» (permanent dance conference) serves as an interface between the dance scene and the political world. It was founded this year to accompany measures proposed by «Projekt Tanz» and formulate a dance policy which is then submitted to the political authorities and related organisations. These include the Federal Office of Culture, Pro Helvetia, the conference of cantonal

cultural representatives, the Swiss cities' conference for cultural issues, the Swiss dance network «Reso» and «DanseSuisse». Further information under [www.prohelvetia.ch/tanz](http://www.prohelvetia.ch/tanz).

## TIPS

### FolkDEBATEculture

At the Alte Oele theatre in Thun, a debate on folk theatre will be held on 26 October as part of Pro Helvetia's «echoes – folk culture for tomorrow» programme. What are the typical features of lay theatre? How many professionals can lay theatre take? After brief presentations by representatives from the worlds of folk culture, art, cultural promotion, politics, academia and the media, there will be an award ceremony for the most original performance at the meeting of open air theatres. Click [here](#) for more information.



### Swiss dance at the Phönix theatre

The «theatre now» festival in Steckborn is being staged for the third time. Up to the beginning of December, the Phönix theatre is presenting a high-class, multifaceted dance programme featuring Swiss dance in all its variety. Acts include Anna Huber, Fritz Hauser, the miR Compagnie and Philippe Saire, who will be showing their latest creations, leaping with ease across all borderlines separating the performing arts disciplines. Further information is available [here](#).



### Closing symposium for Living in a Monument

The Ballenberg open air museum is looking back on the 2007 summer season. A historic Bernese «Oberland» farmhouse in Matten has been converted to modern living standards in an exemplary fashion under the motto of «Tradition and Innovation». The project was included in Pro Helvetia's «echoes – folk culture for tomorrow» programme. The closing symposium on 20 October will take stock of this unusual refurbishment project and look ahead to the future. More details under [Freilichtmuseum](#) and [Pro Helvetia](#).



## COLOPHON

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

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