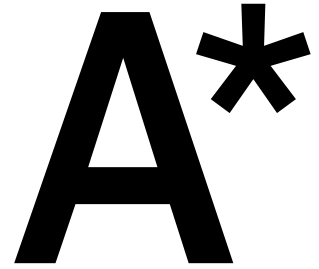


Media Release

Aarau in July, 2012



La jeunesse est un art

2012 Anniversary Manor Art Award

Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau (CH)

1 September - 18 November 2012

This year, the Aargauer Kunsthaus presents a major survey exhibition of young contemporary art in Switzerland, *La jeunesse est un art*, to mark the 30th anniversary of the Manor Art Award, one of the foremost advancement awards for contemporary art in the country.

La jeunesse est un art provides Aargauer Kunsthaus with an opportunity to present important young art practices in a large-scale exhibition and, in the process, expand its position as an institution devoted to Swiss art. This reputation, indeed, earned the Kunsthaus the honour of being approached by the Manor Company about an exhibition to mark the 30th anniversary of the Manor Art Award.

One year after the exhibition *Voici un dessin suisse* (Aargauer Kunsthaus, in cooperation with the Musée Jenisch Vevey), which presented a cross-section of Swiss draughtsmanship, the group show *La jeunesse est un art* will, in turn, widen the scope. On view will be a wide variety of current Swiss art using a broad range of artistic media. The exhibition is intended as a well-founded and pioneering presentation of the current young art scene in Switzerland and thus continues a series of exhibitions that were each similarly conceived as surveys of contemporary Swiss art: *Saus und Braus* (1980, Städtische Galerie Strauhof, Zurich), *Stiller Nachmittag* (1987, Kunsthaus Zürich), *Nonchalance* (1997, Centre PasquArt, Biel), *Freie Sicht aufs Mittelmeer* (1998, Kunsthaus Zürich), and *Shifting Identities* (2008, Kunsthaus Zürich).

In this anniversary year, the exhibition *La jeunesse est un art* replaces the Manor Art Awards and the concomitant solo exhibitions at various venues. The group exhibition organised by the Aargauer Kunsthaus highlights

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the sponsorship concept underlying the Manor Art Award and focuses, like the regionally organised Manor Awards, on the promotion of promising young talent in the Swiss art scene. Thus the focus is not on the history of the Manor Art Award, but rather on the present, the topical and the look ahead. The exhibition will include works of 49 artists, among them some of the most innovative and discrete artistic practices. Conceived as an assessment of the current state of young Swiss art, artists from all parts of the country will be included. In most cases, the artists are creating new works especially for this exhibition. Beyond the museum presentation, the in-depth reflection on the current Swiss art scene is extended and enlarged upon in the form of a comprehensive publication.

As provided by the selection criteria for the regular Manor Art Award, the cut-off age for exhibiting artists is 40. Whether artists have previously received Manor Art Awards or not remained deliberately unconsidered in the selection process. To meet the requirements of a major survey exhibition in a comprehensive manner, artists were selected in a two-stage process by a curatorial board. Six young curators were invited to serve as jurors. All belonging to the same generation as the artists included in the exhibition, they are experienced curators who have demonstrated a thorough knowledge of and familiarity with the young art scene. In addition, they are from different parts of the country. Madeleine Schuppli, director of the Aargauer Kunsthaus, presided over the board.

Artists included in the exhibition

Omar Alessandro, Omar Ba, Alexandra Bachzetsis, Nino Baumgartner, Seline Baumgartner, Vanessa Billy, Beni Bischof, Pauline Boudry / Renate Lorenz, Manuel Burgener, Stefan Burger, Valentin Carron, Davide Cascio, Claudia Comte, Stéphane Dafflon, Philippe Decrauzat, Emilie Ding, Latifa Echakhch, Saskia Edens, Athene Galiciadis, Florian Germann, Aloïs Godinat, Christian Gonzenbach, Gian-Reto Gredig / Goran Galic, Raphael Hefti, Thomas Julier, Esther Kempf, Laurent Kropf, Fabian Marti, Luc Mattenberger, Adrien Missika, Kaspar Müller, Damián Navarro, Taiyo Onorato / Nico Krebs, Uriel Orlow, Sandrine Pelletier, Mai-Thu Perret, Guillaume Pilet, Annaïk Lou Pitteloud, Marta Riniker Radich, Anne Rochat, Ana Roldan, Kilian Rüthemann, Vanessa Safavi, Denis Savary, Pascal Schwaighofer, Shirana Shahbazi

Members of the Curatorial Board

Alexandra Blättler (Zurich), Marco Costantini (Lausanne), Fredi Fischli (Zurich/Berlin), Patrick Gosatti (Locarno/Geneva), Marianne Wagner (Bern), Véronique Yersin (Chêne-Bourg, Canton of Geneva), and Madeleine Schuppli, Director, Aargauer Kunsthaus.

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Catalogue

In conjunction with the exhibition a catalogue is published. Titled *La jeunesse est un art* and edited by Madeleine Schuppli and the Aargauer Kunsthaus Aarau, this volume includes essays by Jean-Paul Felley / Olivier Käser, Madeleine Schuppli as well as an interview with Bice Curiger by Daniel Morgenthaler and texts by numerous other authors. 320 pp. In German/French/English. Lucerne/Poschiavo: Edizioni Periferia, 2012. ISBN 978-3-906016-05-4. CHF 58.-. For members and sponsors of the Aargauischer Kunstverein CHF 52.-

Curator

Madeleine Schuppli

Preview for the media

Thursday, 30 August 2012, 10 am

Exhibition opening

Saturday, 1 September 2012, starting at 4 pm

4 - 6 pm: Performances

6.15 pm Speakers: Madeleine Schuppli, Director, Aargauer Kunsthaus, and Pierre-André Maus, Administrateur Délégué Maus Frères SA. Followed by a viewing of the exhibition and drinks and snacks in the foyer.

In the tent on the Kunsthaus roof: **starting at 4 pm**, bar and grill; **starting at 8 pm**, party.

The exhibition will be accessible starting at 10 am; free admission all day.

Artist's talks

Thursday, 18 October 2012, 6.30 pm

Katrin Weilenmann in conversation with Stefan Burger, Saskia Edens, Florian Germann, Esther Kempf and Luc Mattenberger; followed by drinks and snacks in the foyer.

Thursday, 8 November 2012, 6.30 pm

Madeleine Schuppli in conversation with Nino Baumgartner, Beni Bischof, Valentin Carron, Athene Galiciadis and Sandrine Pelletier; followed by drinks and snacks in the foyer.

L'art en fête

Saturday, 29 September 2012, from 3 pm until late

Various artist performances, round table, live music, food and drinks (details at www.aargauerkunsthaus.ch starting in August).

Guided tours

Thursday, 6.30 pm

6 Sept. with Annette Bürgi, **13 Sept.** with Brigitte Haas, **20 Sept.** with Brigitte Haas, **27 Sept.** with Catherine Nuber, **4 Oct.** with Astrid Näff, **11 Oct.** with Astrid Näff, **25 Oct.** with Anna Francke, **1 Nov.** with Catherine Nuber, **15 Nov.** with Annette Bürgi

Sunday, 11 am

2 Sept. with Anna Francke, **9 Sept.** with Annette Bürgi, **16 Sept.** with Anna Francke, **23 Sept.** with Anna Francke, **30 Sept.** with Madeleine Schuppli, **7 Oct.** with Astrid Näff, **14 Oct.** with Anna Francke, **21 Oct.** with Annette Bürgi, **28 Oct.** with Brigitte Haas, **4 Nov.** with Astrid Näff, **11 Nov.** with Brigitte Haas, **18 Nov.** with Astrid Näff

Art Education

An extensive supporting programme of art education events accompanies the exhibition. For additional information please refer to the separate flyer or visit our website at www.aargauerkunstaus.ch.

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday 10 am - 5 pm, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm.

Thursday 30 August closed at 5 pm.

Please note: Thursday 30 August closed at 5 pm due to a private event.

Images

A selection of images is available for downloading on our website at www.aargauerkunsthaus.ch/de/Media. Please take note of the photo credits.

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