ANNUAL MEDIA CONFERENCE | 21 JANUARY 2016.

2016 exhibition programme

NATIONAL MUSEUM ZURICH

Dada Universal
05.02.16 – 28.03.16

“DADA WAS THERE BEFORE THERE WAS DADA” In February 1916, the radical artistic and literary movement called “Dada” was founded in Zurich, and it quickly captured attention worldwide. To commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the birth of Dadaism, the National Museum Zurich will be exhibiting selected objects that embody the creative, revolutionary, universal “esprit dada”. Numerous objects from different eras and fields, accompanied by video projections and sound backdrops, will bring the Dada spirit alive in a whirl through space and time involving all the human senses. Because: “DADA EST TATOU. TOUT EST DADA.”

Project management: Stefan Zweifel | Juri Steiner
Research assistant: Daniela Nowakowsky

Conrad Gessner (1516–2016)
17.03.16 – 19.06.16

The 500th birthday of the universal Swiss scholar Conrad Gessner is coming up on 16 March 2016. To mark the occasion, an exhibition of Gessner's botanical and zoological drawings will be offered by the National Museum Zurich in cooperation with the Zentralbibliothek Zürich – the first such exhibition to be held in Zurich, where Gessner was born, in over 400 years. Personal documents and objects belonging to the scholar will provide fascinating insights into his work, the wealth of which is a testimony to the universalism of Conrad Gessner's scholarliness: he was not only a zoologist, but also an accomplished botanist, linguist, physician and bibliographer.

Project management: Mylène Ruoss | Urs B. Leu
Swiss Press Photo 16
03.05.16 – 03.07.16

“Swiss Press Photo 16” will present outstanding Swiss press photographs from 2015. An international jury will select the photo of the year in six different categories. Some 90 photographs will be on show in the categories News, Daily Life, Swiss Stories, People, Sport and World. The “Swiss Press Photo” is one of the most esteemed competitions in Swiss photo journalism, and it strikingly demonstrates the notion that “one picture is worth a thousand words”.

Project management: Ricabeth Steiger

Europe in the Renaissance
Metamorphoses 1400 – 1600
01.08.16 – 27.11.16
Opening exhibition of the National Museum Zurich

The opening exhibition of the National Museum Zurich is devoted to the Renaissance. The Renaissance was a cultural era that gave birth to some of the most important advances in human history: the invention of the printing press using movable letters, the discovery of an unknown continent and the formulation of a new view of the earth and its place in the universe. It was a time when people sought to solve the riddles of nature, experimented with alchemy, set out to develop a new medical science, conceived a new vision of mankind and created abundant beauty in the form of pictures, architecture, sculpture and literature. All these discoveries and creations would have been unimaginable without a broad and dynamic exchange at many levels. The Renaissance was an era of dialogue, new horizons in thinking, transformations and cultural interaction over great distances and time.

The exhibition invites visitors to trace the movements behind these momentous changes and interaction. It refers to artworks, instruments and objects of everyday life as historical sources. A committee of renowned specialists contributed to the exhibition’s commentary.

Project management: Bernd Roeck | Denise Tonella
Archaeology in Switzerland
opening 1 August 2016
Opening exhibition of the National Museum Zurich

Visitors to the “Archaeology in Switzerland” exhibition will be introduced to Switzerland’s rich archaeological heritage through archaeological finds from mountainous regions, glaciers, lakes, cities and villages. Key historical developments are illustrated chronologically, from the appearance of the first human being more than 100,000 years ago to the spread of Christianity and its consolidation around 800 AD. At individual research stations, visitors can learn about how man and the environment have influenced each other over the centuries.

Project management: Luca Tori

Christmas and Cribs
25.11.16 – 08.01.17

During the Advent and Christmas season, the National Museum Zurich will be inviting families to take a journey of discovery in a magical winter wonderland. Under a starry sky among snow-covered pine trees, visitors will be amazed by the beautifully crafted nativity scenes on display in igloo shelters. The nativity scenes are from a variety of regions and time periods. The programme of special events on offer for children is always especially popular. Youngsters can participate in arts and crafts, listen to the Christmas story, sing Advent songs and experience the thrill of a visit from St. Nicholas, who will be making a special stop at the museum.

Project management: Joya Indermühle
FORUM OF SWISS HISTORY SCHWYZ

Gotthard. Off through the Mountain
16.04.16 – 11.09.16

A mountain massif that has been tunnelled three times within 150 years for the purpose of traffic facilitation is unique. The exhibition explains why and how the three tunnels were built in response to changing economic and political circumstances. Comparisons show that the Gotthard tunnels not only set new technological standards but also brought about profound economic and social changes. Visitors learn about the mountain’s history, from the medieval bridle paths to Switzerland’s most costly and prestigious construction project, a mountain that has become more like an imposing edifice which is traversed millions of times a year.

Project Manager: Jürg Burlet

Peter Ammon. Life in the Swiss mountains in the 1950s.
15.10.16–11.03.17

The work of photographer Peter Ammon (*1924 in Lucerne) depicts country life in Switzerland in snapshots capturing densely atmospheric moments. Ammon’s ethnographical interests and his keen instinct for people led him to record the life and work of mountain farmers in Switzerland. His pictures document traditional crafts and trades that have largely disappeared today. This series of 160 large-scale slides created between 1952 and 1962 is of great documentary value and has major significance in the history of photography. Ammon was one of the first Swiss photographers in the 1950s to use 4 x 5-inch Kodak colour film. In the field, his equipment typically included a view camera with flashbulbs. “Life in the Swiss mountains in the 1950s” was an independent project of Ammon’s. His work was otherwise concentrated on commissions in the fields of architecture, industry, national heritage and theatre.

Project management: Rebecca Sanders
CHÂTEAU DE PRANGINS

Louis-Auguste Brun, Painter to Marie-Antoinette. From Prangins to Versailles
04.03.16 - 10.07.16

A skilled draughtsman and an outstanding painter of portraits, animals and landscapes, the Swiss artist Louis-Auguste Brun (1758-1815) is principally known for the works he produced at the court of Versailles, in particular two equestrian portraits of Queen Marie-Antoinette. In fact, however, there is much more to his oeuvre. While his international success was undoubtedly due to his talent, it was also shaped by formative meetings at Château de Prangins, just as he was starting out. This exhibition reveals how Brun’s development revolved around these two central points – Prangins and Versailles – and offers a complete overview of his multifaceted career.

Project Manager: Nicole Staremberg

Swiss Jews: 150 years of equal rights
19.08.16 – 19.09.16

This travelling exhibition features photographic portraits of fifteen Jewish individuals taken by the famous Bernese photographer Alexander Jaquemet. The subjects chosen were photographed in their own environment and reflect the diversity of the Jewish population in Switzerland.

Project Director: Nicole Staremberg

World Press Photo 16 | 18.11.16–11.12.16
Swiss Press Photo 16 | 18.11.16–26.02.17

For the fourth year in succession, the two photojournalism exhibitions World Press Photo and Swiss Press Photo will be on display at the same location from 18 November 2016. Château de Prangins presents an exceptional panorama of recent events in Switzerland and around the world.

Project Director: Marie-Hélène Pellet
2016 EXHIBITIONS

National Museum Zurich. | Temporary exhibitions.

05.02.2016 – 28.03.2016  Dada Universal

17.03.2016 – 19.06.2016  Conrad Gessner (1516–2016)

01.08.16 – 27.11.16  Europe in the Renaissance
                    Metamorphoses 1400 – 1600
                    Opening exhibition of the new National Museum Zurich

03.05.2016 – 03.07.2016  Swiss Press Photo 16

25.11.2016 – 08.01.2017  Christmas and Cribs

National Museum Zurich. | Permanent exhibitions.

Archaeology in Switzerland opening 1 August 2016 | Opening exhibition of the new National Museum Zurich

History of Switzerland

Collections Gallery

Armoury Tower

Swiss homes & furnishings
Forum of Swiss History Schwyz. | Special exhibitions.

16.04.16 – 11.09.16  Gotthard. Off through the Mountain
15.10.16–11.03.17  Peter Ammon. Life in the Swiss mountains in the 1950s.

Forum of Swiss History Schwyz. | Permanent exhibition.

Switzerland in the making. Through the 12th to the 14th Century

Château de Prangins. | Temporary exhibitions.

04.03.16 - 10.07.16  Louis-Auguste Brun, Painter to Marie-Antoinette. From Prangins to Versailles
19.08.16 – 19.09.16  Swiss Jews: 150 years of equal rights
18.11.16 – 11.12.16  World Press Photo 16
18.11.16 – 26.02.17  Swiss Press Photo 16

Château de Prangins. | Permanent exhibitions.

Noblesse oblige! Life at a Château in the 18th Century
Panorama of Swiss history. From the Helvetii to the present
Switzerland on the Move 1750–1920
Discovering the garden. Old varieties, current issues
Discovering the Enlightenment. A cultural tour around the château

Status January 2016. Subject to change. | www.nationalmuseum.ch