#### **Press Release**

**Annual Press Conference: 2019 Preview** 



Defining the museum's mission, building on existing partnerships, strengthening our network of relationships with cultural institutions and our audiences: these are the cornerstones of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's plans for the next several years.

Salzburg, December 24, 2018. "Together with the museum's team, I will work to develop a vision that will bring the museum into the twenty-first century while cherishing its history, and to draw up a comprehensive mission statement," Thorsten Sadowsky, who took the helm as the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's director in September 2018, says. "I believe that the museum should be an open forum for discussion and debate. Its legitimacy derives from its critical engagement with the present; it needs to address the urgent questions of today. Yet a narrow focus on the contemporary not balanced by the study of the past can result in empty repetition."

With thematic expositions of art from the collections, monographic exhibitions, and a renewed effort to position the Museum der Moderne Salzburg as a hub for photography, Sadowsky proposes to raise its international stature as a center of expertise in art, photography, and visual culture and key player in the local art scene, which has made Salzburg one of Europe's most attractive cultural destinations. To this end, he will build on existing partnerships with premier institutions including the Austrian Federal Photography Collection and the Generali Foundation Collection, which are housed at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg, launching innovative initiatives to develop the great untapped potential of these relationships. In addition, he plans to expand the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's art and cultural education programs in order to draw new audiences to the museum and enliven its dialogue with the general population. A museum, Sadowsky believes, is a platform for today's concerns and vital tendencies and should showcase new and emerging contemporary positions.

"The modernist art-historical canon and contemporary art go hand in hand," Sadowsky emphasizes. The 2019 program of exhibitions accordingly opens with two monographic presentations of the oeuvres of Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (1880 Aschaffenburg, DE—1938 Frauenkirch-Wildboden near Davos, CH) and Asger Jorn (1914 Vejrum, DK—1973 Aarhus, DK). Inaugurating Sadowsky's tenure as director, these shows will trace an arc from classic modernism to contemporary art. *Ernst Ludwig Kirchner. The Painter as Photographer* (March 2—June 16, 2019) will offer a comprehensive survey of the photographic gaze in Kirchner's output; it will be the first presentation in Austria of this little-known set of works by the eminent German expressionist. Asger Jorn's oeuvre, by contrast, reflects a playful approach to artistic conventions and articulates a sly dialectic between tradition and satire, old and new, critique and encomium. *Asger Jorn. The Printed Oeuvre* (March 23—June 30, 2019) will feature more than five hundred works of graphic art that have never been on display outside of Denmark.

#### **Press**

Mönchsberg 32 5020 Salzburg Austria

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One of the first expositions of art from the museum's holdings in 2019 will be *Humanity in Photographs. Recent Acquisitions of the Austrian Federal Photography Collection* (April 6—June 16, 2019), which will invite the public to discover this growing and evolving collection. Our long-running series of thematic exhibitions mounted in cooperation with the Generali Foundation will continue, with the eleventh (April 27—September 29, 2019) and twelfth (October 19, 2019—March 8, 2020) presentations scheduled to open in the new year. The Generali Foundation Study Center, too, will host several thematically focused shows throughout 2019.

The summer will bring two highlights of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's 2019 programming. First, a grand exhibition of the oeuvre of the Israeli sculptor and video and installation artist Sigalit Landau (1969 Jerusalem, IL—Tel Aviv, IL) will open in both venues. For the past fifteen years, Landau has kept going back to the Dead Sea as a source of inspiration and laboratory for numerous works in which she creates fascinating metamorphoses, often probing questions of female identity and bodily experience. The shadows cast by the Holocaust, the tense political situation in Israel, and complex issues of justice, structural violence, and the economic exploitation of nature are other concerns that her powerful and multifaceted works explore. Titled *Salt Years* (July 6—November 17, 2019), her show will include numerous readymades baptized in the Dead Sea and a selection from Landau's most important works on video.

Then, we will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the landing of Apollo 11 on 21 July 2019 with a major exhibition produced in cooperation with the Kunsthaus Zürich: *Fly Me to the Moon. The Moon landing: 50 years on* (July 20—November 3, 2019). Roaming the history of art to gather a wide variety of creative renditions and interpretations of the moon, it will bring together diverse media, from copperplate prints and paintings to photographs, video art, and multimedia installations.

Dystopian miniatures and black humor will await visitors in the exhibition *Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz. A Mind of Winter* (November 30, 2019—April 19, 2020). The artists, who are partners in life and work, create photographs and sculptures: surreal landscape dioramas and absurd and bizarre scenes that throw the precariousness and darker aspects of human relationships into sharp relief. Finally, the 2019 programming will conclude with a grand exhibition throwing open the doors of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's storehouses (November 30, 2019—April 5, 2020). An abundant selection from our heterogeneous holdings will take up the walls and floors of the galleries on levels [3] and [4] of the Mönchsberg venue. An expedition into the less familiar regions of the collections, the show will also unearth treasures that have not seen the spotlight of a public presentation in decades.

#### **Press**

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#### 2019/2020 Exhibition Preview

The Museum der Moderne is a renowned institution presenting thematically focused presentations of art from the collections and high-quality monographic exhibitions that have helped put Salzburg on the map as one of Europe's most attractive cultural destinations. One key item on the museum's agenda is to sharpen its profile as a hub for photography. My goal is to develop the Museum der Moderne Salzburg into an internationally recognized center of expertise in art, photography, and visual culture.

Thanks to the new art storage unit, the museum now boasts first-rate infrastructure allowing it to fulfill another crucial part of its mission: to care for and enlarge its collections. Innovative initiatives will allow us to make the most of our partnerships, especially with the Austrian Federal Photography Collection and the outstanding Generali Foundation Collection, which are on permanent loan to the museum.

As a storehouse of the collective cultural and creative memory, the Museum der Moderne Salzburg presents prominent Austrian and international positions that are fixtures of twentieth-century art history. At the same time, the museum is a platform for the concerns and tendencies of the present and showcases contemporary positions. The modernist art-historical canon and contemporary art go hand in hand. I envision the museum as an open forum for discussion and debate. Its legitimacy derives from its critical engagement with the present; it needs to address the urgent questions of today. Yet a narrow focus on the contemporary not balanced by the study of the past can result in empty repetition. That is why I look forward to working with the museum's team to develop a vision that will bring the museum into the twenty-first century while cherishing its history.

The programming for 2019 builds on the proven tradition of thematic presentations of art from our own diverse holdings as well as the eminent collections on permanent loan to the Museum der Moderne Salzburg, while the exhibitions of the art of Asger Jorn and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner draw a line from classic modernism to contemporary art. Jorn's exuberant creativity reflects his playful approach to artistic conventions and articulates a sly dialectic between tradition and satire, between critique and encomium. Kirchner, on the other hand, harnessed photography as a medium of image cultivation, inventing a fictional art critic who kept contemporaries guessing for no fewer than thirteen years and ran a very original marketing campaign for his creator's work.

Sigalit Landau's exhibition *Salt Years* spotlights a vital position in contemporary art: her work probes the existential and ambivalent qualities of challenging and extraordinary experiences. Visitors can also look forward to dystopian miniatures in the exhibition *A Mind of Winter* and a wide-ranging survey of artists' attempts to render the boundlessness of the macrocosm, gathered in the exhibition *Fly Me to the Moon* on occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Finally, we will open our galleries to the riches of our collections and invite the public to discover hidden treasures.

Dr. Thorsten Sadowsky Director

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#### **Exhibitions spring to summer 2019**

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner
The Painter as Photographer

March 2—June 16, 2019

Opening reception: March 2, 2019

Mönchsberg [3]

The Kirchner Museum Davos has a large set of glass and cellulose negatives that Ernst Ludwig Kirchner produced between 1908 and 1938. In 2015–2016, the museum undertook a comprehensive review of its photography collection, which comprises ca. 1,500 works, including negatives as well as vintage and modern prints. All negatives were digitized, and high-end museum-quality silver gelatin prints were made. Thanks to this effort, it is now possible to illustrate the full spectrum of Kirchner's multifaceted and in some respects experimental use of the medium of photography.

Presenting a selection of ca. three hundred photographic works, the exhibition will include examples from all genres that Kirchner tried his hand at: nudes and studio scenes, portraits, landscapes, and object photography. Although he did not think of his photography as fine art, he extensively explored the medium's possibilities, employing photography as a tool that helped him devise compositional solutions; his art conversely reflects the vision of an inventory of the world in the photographic image. The exhibition undertakes a comprehensive synoptic study of the photographic gaze in Kirchner's work. It is the first presentation in Austria of this segment of the famous German expressionist's oeuvre, which has not received the attention it merits.

Produced in cooperation with the Kirchner Museum Davos.

**Curators:** Thorsten Sadowsky with Lena Nievers

Asger Jorn
The Printed Oeuvre

March 23—June 30, 2019

Opening reception: March 22, 2019

Mönchsberg [4]

Asger Jorn (1914 Vejrum, DK—1973 Aarhus, DK) is widely regarded as a key figure and colorful protagonist of the European avant-garde after World War II. Synthesizing Surrealism, art informel, action painting, and Nordic folk art, he forges a novel figurative mode in painting that arguably paves the way for the Neue Wilde in Germany and Austria as well as Italy's transavanguardia. Jorn's pictures celebrate a cheerful artistic vandalism, jettisoning all received ideas of value and form and embracing the creation of the marvelous, unwonted, mysterious, imaginary, and chaotic as the true mission of art. The legendary creatures that figure in many of his works should accordingly not be read as an effort to restore a mythical aspect to a disillusioned modernity; rather, they

function as a playful and experimental disruption of established visual practice, relentlessly subverting the aesthetic standards of high culture.

Jorn's renown as the preeminent Danish artist of the twentieth century rests on his work in painting and printmaking. The exhibition will be the first extensive presentation outside Denmark of his graphic oeuvre, which encompasses more than five hundred prints.

Produced in cooperation with the Museum Jorn, the exhibition will be accompanied by a publication.

**Curators:** Thorsten Sadowsky with Barbara Herzog and Lena Nievers

# Humanity in Photographs Recent Acquisitions of the Federal Photography Collection

April 6—June 16, 2019 Opening reception: April 5, 2019 Rupertinum [1] & [2]

This presentation of a selection of recent accessions to the Austrian Federal Photography Collection offers our visitors an opportunity to discover the growing and evolving collection and underscores its central significance for the Museum der Moderne Salzburg.

Curators: Christiane Kuhlmann with Andrea Lehner-Hagwood

#### Sun stop!

April 6—November 17, 2019 (extended)
Opening reception: April 5, 2019
Rupertinum [2] – Generali Foundation Study Center
Presented by

Together, the writer Konrad Bayer (1932—1964 Vienna, AT) and the filmmaker Freddy Radax (b. 1932) developed the avant-garde film *Sonne halt!* (Sun stop!) at the beginning of the 1960s. Bayer plays the main role in this, a double figure of dandy and sailor, who brings the sun to explode with a gunshot blast and thus changes the view on things. Radax's view of film, as constantly moving material, adds the writer Bayer with passages from his unfinished novel *the sixth sense* to a "film poem".

Curator: Marijana Schneider

# all natural 100 % Collections

April 27—September 29, 2019 Opening reception: April 26, 2019 Mönchsberg [2] Presented by

The future of the planet—and the condition in which we will leave it to our descendants—is one of today's most pressing concerns. Climate change and dwindling resources are critical issues that increasingly affect the everyday lives of many people. Our relationship with nature has come under close scrutiny.

Continuing the series of exhibitions produced in partnership with the Generali Foundation, the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's new presentation of art from the collections showcases selected works that examine and reflect on the complex web of interrelations between humans and their environment.

Curator: Christina Penetsdorfer

#### **Exhibitions summer to fall 2019**

Sigalit Landau Salt Years

July 6—November 17, 2019 Opening reception: July 5, 2019 Mönchsberg [3] Rupertinum [1] & [2]

For the past fifteen years, the sculptor and video and installation artist Sigalit Landau (b. 1969) has kept going back to the Dead Sea as a source of inspiration and laboratory. It has been the scene of the genesis of numerous works; in particular, she "baptizes" various objects and fabrics (clothes, bodices, etc.) by immersing them in the world's saltiest sea for months, creating fascinating metamorphoses that often probe questions of female identity and bodily experience. The shadows cast by the Holocaust, the tense political situation in Israel, and complex issues of justice, structural violence, and the economic exploitation of nature are other concerns that her powerful and multifaceted works explore. The artist's deeply moving videos combine a poetic aura with striking symbolism, revealing the transformative, sustaining, and healing as well as destructive power of salt in its profound ambivalence.

Sigalit Landau is one of the foremost Israeli artists working today. In recent years, her work has been presented at numerous major museums in Israel, the United States, and Europe as well as at documenta and the Venice Biennale.

The exhibition includes several readymades baptized in the Dead Sea and a selection from Landau's most important works on video.

Curators: Thorsten Sadowsky with Marijana Schneider

Fly Me to the Moon The Moon landing: 50 years on July 20—November 3, 2019 Opening reception: July 19, 2019 Mönchsberg [4]

July 21, 2019 will bring the fiftieth anniversary of the first time a human set foot on the moon—an excellent occasion to examine the epoch-making event through the lens of art and take stock. Like few achievements before it, the moon landing changed humanity's relationship with its environment. Seeing the Earth from space created unprecedented awareness of the fragility of our existence; the blue planet itself became an emblem of life and its vulnerability.

The exhibition undertakes an excursion into art history, gathering artists' renditions and interpretations of the moon since the days of Galileo Galilei and the invention of the first telescope. Looking back on several centuries of human fascination with the moon, with an emphasis on the twentieth century and the present, it includes copperplate prints and paintings as well as photographs, video art, and multimedia installations.

A catalogue in German and English will be published in conjunction with the exhibition.

The exhibition is produced in cooperation with the Kunsthaus Zürich and cocurated by Cathérine Hug.

With generous support from Pro Helvetia, Swiss Arts Council

**Curators at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg:** Thorsten Sadowsky with Tina Teufel and Christina Penetsdorfer

#### Exhibitions fall 2018 to spring 2019

#### **Exhibition from the Collections** (working title)

October 19, 2019—March 8, 2020 Opening reception: October 18, 2019

Mönchsberg [2]
Presented by

The twelfth thematic presentation developed in partnership with the Generali Foundation from the collections of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg, in which numerous top works from own collections and collections entrusted to the museum such as the Federal Photography Collection and the Generali Foundation together with new acquisitions and rediscoveries are brought into dialogue.

Curator: Marijana Schneider

# Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz A Mind of Winter

November 30, 2019—April 19, 2020 Opening reception: November 29, 2019

Rupertinum [1] & [2]

Walter Martin (b. 1953) and Paloma Muñoz (b. 1965), who have been partners in life and work since 1994, are best known for their photographs and sculptures, surreal landscape dioramas in which absurd and bizarre scenes play out.

The meticulously manufactured and extraordinarily detailed snow globes of the *Travelers* series document the fates of those who set out on journeys. Each a miniature world unto itself, they feature an icy wilderness of snowy mountains, blocks of ice, and dead trees, with various characters stuck in more or less hopeless predicaments. Their disconcerting interactions and the calamities that are about to befall them or have already occurred suggest the precariousness and darker aspects of human relationships. Martin & Muñoz's "hilarious nightmares" undermine the nostalgia and sentimentalism that are all over the cultural history of the snow globe. Meanwhile, the dreamy atmosphere engendered by the interplay between glass globe, water, the motif, and driving snow lets them stage eerily beautiful stories, turning a tacky souvenir into a microcosm of existential wintry moods and vehicle for a distinctive deep-black humor.

The presentation includes sculptures, dioramas, and photographs for a multifaceted introduction to Martin & Muñoz's dystopian universe. A catalogue in German and English will be published in conjunction with the exhibition.

Curators: Thorsten Sadowsky with Tina Teufel

From Book to Rara (working title)
November 30, 2019—April 19, 2020
Rupertinum [2] – Generali Foundation Study Center
Presented by

In addition to books, catalogs and periodicals, the study center also houses special collections from the collection of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg and the Generali Foundation. The so-called Rara show in a visually impressive way how artists have dealt with the medium of books. But what can be understood in the context of modern and contemporary art under Rara? What is regarded as precious and what is rare? And how are the focal points of the collection, "preferences" and the respective orientation of institutions in answering these questions and the Rara collection itself reflected? The exhibition traces these topics and immediately seeks to present extraordinary examples of "published art" of the 20th century.

Curator: Stefanie Grünangerl

#### The Tip of the Iceberg

November 30, 2019—April 5, 2020 Opening reception: November 29, 2019 Mönchsberg [3] & [4]

"How much space should a work of art have [...] to 'breathe'?" Brian O'Doherty, Inside the White Cube, 1976.

There is no such thing as a neutral hanging. The practice of arranging visual art in a gallery has a checkered history, which reflects changing attitudes toward art and ideas about what pictures are as well as the political and economic motivations driving collectors, gallery owners, and curators. The notion that art should be displayed before a sober white wall first emerged in the 1920s and subsequently became the accepted standard for exhibitions everywhere. In the 1940s and 1950s, almost all museums were transformed into white cubes. In these settings, art appears as a purely self-reflective system, unmoored in space and time, without any connection to a political or social reality outside it. Starting in the 1960s, artists and critics of the museum as an institution discussed the ambivalent potential of the white museum gallery, its capacity to endow any object with an aura and turn it into a fetish not unlike a luxury good. In light of this history, museums do well to periodically reconsider the premises of their four central responsibilities: the collection, preservation, and scholarly study of art as well as art education.

To this purpose, we will mount a thoroughly redesigned presentation of the Museum der Moderne Salzburg's heterogeneous holdings, using every square inch of the galleries' walls and floors. An expedition into the less familiar regions of the collections, the grand exhibition will also unearth treasures that have not seen the spotlight of a public presentation in decades. A sophisticated and visually appealing tableau encapsulating the museum's collections, it will exemplarily illustrate art-historical classificatory principles and the changing practice of exhibition-making.

Curators: Thorsten Sadowsky with the Curatorial Team



## Museum der Moderne Salzburg

# **Press Images**

# Program 2019

5 December 2018 Mönchsberg Auditorium

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Download: http://www.museumdermoderne.at/en/press/press/



Ernst Ludwig Kirchner The Painter as Photographer 2 March—16 June 2019 Mönchsberg [3]

## **Ernst Ludwig Kirchner** Self-portrait, around 1928 Glasnegativ Kirchner Museum Davos, Donation Estate Ernst Ludwig Kirchner 1992



Asger Jorn The Printed Œuvre 23 March-30 June 2019 Mönchsberg [4]

## **Asger Jorn** Untitled, 1955 Colored potato print, watercolors Museum Jorn, Silkeborg, © Donation Jorn, Silkeborg / Bildrecht, Vienna, 2018



Humanity in Photographs Recent Acquisitions of the Federal Photography Collection 6 April—16 June 2019 Rupertinum [1] & [2]

## Nilbar Güres-Rein Non sex belt, 2014 Chromogenic print Federal Photography Collection at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg

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Sigalit Landau Salt Years 6 July—17 November 2019 Mönchsberg [3] Rupertinum [1] & [2]

### Sigalit Landau DeadSee, 2005 Videostill © Sigalit Landau

Fly Me to the Moon The Moon landing: 50 years on 20 July—3 November 2019 Mönchsberg [4]

## Vladimir Dubossarsky & **Alexander Vinogradov** Cosmonaut No. 1, 2006 Oil on canvas Courtesy Vladimir Dobrovolski



Fly Me to the Moon The Moon landing: 50 years on 20 July—3 November 2019 Mönchsberg [4]

## Yinka Shonibare MBA Spacewalk, 2002 Cotton fabric with screen printing, fiberglass, plywood, vinyl, plastic, steel Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, © Bildrecht, Vienna, 2018



Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz A Mind of Winter 30 November 2019—19 April 2020 Rupertinum [1] & [2]

# Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz The Orchard at Night, 2006 Chromogenic print Courtesy the artists

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Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz A Mind of Winter 30 November 2019—19 April 2020 Rupertinum [1] & [2]

# Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz

Traveler 208, 2003 Chromogenic print Courtesy the artists

The Tip of the Iceberg 30 November 2019—5 April 2020 Mönchsberg [3] & [4]

#### **Gustav Klimt**

Study for the portrait of Amalie Zuckerkandl, around 1917/18 Pencil on paper Museum der Moderne Salzburg—Donation by the Galerie Kunst der Gegenwart (Grafische Werkstatt im Traklhaus, Salzburg) Photo: Bettina Salomon

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## Museum der Moderne Salzburg **Dates 2019**

**Ernst Ludwig Kircher** The Painter as Photographer

2 March—16 June 2019 Press Talk: 1 March 2019

Mönchsberg [3]

**Asger Jorn The Printed Oeuvre** 

23 March-30 June 2019 Press Talk: 22 March 2019

Mönchsberg [4]

**Humanity in Photographs Recent Acquisitions of the Federal Photography Collection** 

6 April—16 June 2019 Press Talk: 5 April 2019 Rupertinum [1] & [2]

Sun stop! (working title) 6 April—16 June 2019 Press Talk: 5 April 2019

Rupertinum [2]

Generali Foundation Study Center

all natural

100 % Collections (working title) 27 April—29 September 2019 Press Talk: 26 April 2019 Mönchsberg [2]

Sigalit Landau Salt Years

6 July—17 November 2019 Press Talk: 5 July 2019 Mönchsberg [3] Rupertinum [1] & [2]

Fly Me to the Moon The Moon landing: 50 years on

20 July—3 November 2019 Press Talk: 19 July 2019 Mönchsberg [4]

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# **Exhibition from the Collections** (working title)

19 October 2019—8 March 2020 Pressegespräch: 18 October 2019

Mönchsberg [2]

# Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz A Mind of Winter

30 November 2019—19 April 2020 Press Talk: 29 November 2019

Rupertinum [1] & [2]

# From Book to Rara (working title)

30 November 2019—19 April 2020 Press Talk: 29 November 2019

Rupertinum [2] Generali Foundation Study Center

### The Tip of the Iceberg

30 November 2019—5 April 2020 Press Talk: 29 November 2019

Mönchsberg [3] & [4]