

Sheila Hicks

a little bit of a lot of things

4 February – 14 May 2023, LOK

The Kunstmuseum St. Gallen is delighted to present the first institutional solo exhibition in Switzerland by the internationally renowned artist Sheila Hicks (*1934, Hastings, Nebraska). It is also the first show curated by Gianni Jetzer since he became the new director of the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen.



Installation by Sheila Hicks, *Nowhere to Go*, The Hepworth Wakefield, 2022
Photo: Tom Bird

Sheila Hicks's inventiveness is boundless. The artist, who has lived in Paris since 1964, plays with natural materials in breathtaking colors. She continually knots, weaves, and spins new forms out of wool, linen, and silk. On the one hand, the artist was influenced by modernism, having studied painting under the Bauhaus master Josef Albers at Yale University. On the other hand, she is influenced by the traditional crafts of different continents, which she learned about while traveling and during extended stays in Chile, Mexico, India, and Morocco, among other places.

The exhibition *a little bit of a lot of things* includes works that span a period of more than sixty years. It looks back on an extensive, fascinating work and also features recent works by Hicks, whose creative power remains undiminished to this day.

Large-scale works alternate with small weavings, which the artist continually works on from time to time, like drawings. Hicks has repeatedly invented artistic manipulations in order to articulate new forms out of

Exhibition dates

4 February – 14 May 2023

LOK

Press conference

3 February 2023

11 a.m.

Exhibition opening

3 February 2023

6:30 p.m.

Opening hours

Mon. – Sat.: 1 – 8 p.m.

Sun.: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Press contact

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textile materials, such as weaving interspersed with found objects from nature, scepters wrapped with colored wool, and accumulations of threads tied into ropes as thick as an arm.

The architecture of the LOK is ideally suited to Sheila Hicks's sense of space: two monumental textile columns extend up to the ceiling of this industrial building, which once housed locomotives, as if they were supporting the fragile roof. A heap of colorful wool nets forms a soft sculpture with painterly qualities. Hicks's textile interventions fundamentally change the space. Dimensions are put into perspective, and the artist intervenes on a scale that makes the human body seem insignificant.

In addition to the textile materials, which exude a strong presence, Hicks's saturated and extroverted color palette is also worth noting. It recalls the indigenous textile crafts of South America and India. Hicks thus mediates between different cultures and continents, as well as between different traditions, such as painting and textile art, creating a unique artistic vision.

Sheila Hicks's works have been exhibited internationally in solo and group exhibitions. She participated in the Venice Biennale in 2017, the Whitney Biennial in New York in 2014, and the Bienal de São Paulo in 2012. Recent solo exhibitions include *Lignes de Vie* at the Centre Pompidou in Paris, *Free Threads 1954-2017* at Museo Amparo in Mexico, *Grace, No Gridlock* at galerie frank elbaz, Paris.

Curator: Gianni Jetzer

Factsheet

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Press conference	3 February 2023, 11 a.m., LOK	
Exhibition opening	3 February 2023, 6:30 p.m., LOK	
Curator	Gianni Jetzer	
Opening hours	Monday – Saturday, 1 – 8 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.	
Admission	Single admission, regular price Combined ticket for the LOK and the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen Group ticket (for groups of 8 or more) Members of the Kunstverein St. Gallen	CHF 6 CHF 16 CHF 14 Free
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