

MEDIA RELEASE

20.03. 21.11.2021**werden und vergehen**
Zustandsberichte aus der Sammlung

What do the contents of Beuys' *Fat Box* look like 50 years later? What remains of Marion Baruch's performance? How should the elements of Franz Erhard Walter's *Gesang der Schreitsockel* be put together? Our collection curator Alexandra Blättler will take you on a trip to the inside of the collection and allow you to share her in questions, doubts and solutions. This year's collection presentation is dedicated to transience in the broadest sense. Be it the fleet- ingness of performances and ephemera, or sculptures made of chocolate or fat – many works of art were not intended to last forever. Yet light or climactic changes also have an im- pact on materials considered to be durable. Preservation is one of the four major tasks of the Kunst- museum Luzern. What this exhibition aims to explain in greater details is where an institution arrives at its limits and where it generates new insight. To do this it is showing works from different epochs – ranging from the 18th century to today.

Art and transience are often contiguous, be it as a vanitas motif in painting or as an artistic strategy in the 1970s. For his sculpture *Fishmann (Birth-Death-Fishman)* the artist Paul Thek had a latex impression made of his own body, which was originally presented hanging from the ceiling. Over the course of time, however, the material has become so fragile that the *Fishman* can now only be presented inside a protective display case. Giuseppe Penone's *Albero di undici metri* also presents particular conservation challenges. In concept art in particular, overcoming materiality led to new approaches. In the series *Siluetta Works in Iowa*, Ana Mendieta put on her performances not in front of an audience, but transposed instead into a photographic exami- nation of nature and body. Urs Lüthi, David Weiss and Willy Spiller also stage their *Sketches* directly for the camera. Many artists bring about changeability deliberately, like, for example, Dieter Rot with his Plexiglas box full of chocolate or Jan Dibbets with his *Grass table*.

The exhibition *werden und vergehen. Zustandsberichte aus der Sammlung* (becoming and decaying. Status reports from the collection) examines in various ways the precarious status of art and how artists deal with this. One of the exhibition highlights are the works by Joseph Beuys, who would have been 100 years old this year. In 1969 the action artist installed his legendary *Lucerne Fat Room* at the Kunstmuseum Luzern, the remains of which are preserved in the *Fat Box* and are now being presented in the collection exhibition.

With Vito Acconci, Robert Amrein, René Auberjonois, Marion Baruch, Auguste Baud-Bovy, Joseph Beuys, Alighiero Boetti, Heidi Bucher, Michael Buthe, Berlinde de Bruyckere, Jan Dibbets, Charles Georges Dufresne, Anton Egloff, Hans Emmenegger, Leopold Haefliger, Anton Henning, Anton Herrmann, Matthew Day Jackson, Vassily Khmeluk, Joseph Kosuth, Urs Lüthi, Ana Mendieta, Meret Oppenheim, Giuseppe Penone, Dieter Roth, Christoph Rütimann, Willy Spiller, Ernesto Tatafiore, Paul Thek, André Thomkins, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Félix Vallotton, Maurice de Vlaminck, Aldo Walker, Franz Erhard Walther, David Weiss, Marc Zumstein, Robert Zünd

curated by Alexandra Blättler

DATES

Media preview

Friday, 19.03., 10.15 am

The Cantons are currently discussing further opening measures. We hope that guided tours and events with a limited number of participants will be possible again as of Monday, 22.03. However programme changes and restrictions must still be anticipated. So before your visit please consult www.kunstmuseumluzern.ch. Thank you for your understanding.

Encounter with the original

Guided tour with the collection conservator Alexandra Blättler

Wednesday, 14.04., 6 pm

about Ana Mendieta, with an intervention by sound artist Vincent Glanzmann

Wednesday, 05.05., 6 pm

about Paul Thek

Wednesday, 09.06., 6 pm

about Aldo Walker

Wednesday, 07.07., 6 pm

about Heidi Bucher, with an intervention by sound artist Vincent Glanzmann

Family tour with workshop

Sunday, 18.04., 11–12.30 am

Fathom String Trio

Sunday, 09.05., 11 am

Concert with David Sontòn Caflisch (viola), Moritz Müllenbach (violoncello) and Aline Spaltenstein (contrabass)

Guided tour for the generation 60plus

Thursday, 27.05., 3-4.30 pm

Insurance Case?!

Wednesday, 16.06., 6 pm

Sandra Sykora, lawyer and art historian, in conversation with Alexandra Blättler, collection conservator

Fat Art

Sunday, 27.06., 11 am

Martin Kunz, art historian and former museum director, in conversation with Alexandra Blättler, collection conservator, about Beuys' Lucerne *Fat Corner*

Public guided tours

Wednesday at 6 pm and Sunday at 11 am, as on our website

Schools

A variety of offers for classes of all ages