

The Artist as Researcher of Perception

Markus Raetz (b. 1941) is one of Switzerland's most famous contemporary artists and a key figure in the generation of "artists investigating perception." The Kunstmuseum Bern is mounting an overview of his printmaking oeuvre in combination with several of his sculptures, creating a situation that enables our visitors to also spatially appreciate Raetz's humorous approach in exploring the processes of perception. The oeuvre catalogue of his prints, long out of print, has been revised, updated and republished in conjunction with the exhibition. Both the catalogue and the show were realized in close cooperation with the artist.

In his art Markus Raetz playfully explores how we experience reality. His keen interest in the processes of human perception is the underlying thread of his whole oeuvre. He makes us aware of the fact that reality changes according to our viewpoint and that perception can be deceiving at times. Markus Raetz finds unlimited inspiration through his great technical scope and in the diversity of different materials he uses, leading him to continually produce new and novel works of art.

An internationally famous contemporary artist

Markus Raetz was born in 1941 in Bern, and grew up in Büren on the Aare. From 1957 to 1961 he visited teachers' training college in Hofwil and Bern, while also assisting the Ticino artist Peter Travaglini and executing his first own artworks. Subsequently he worked as a teacher until 1963 and then as an independent artist. In 1969 he was represented at the exhibition *When Attitudes Become Form* curated by Harald Szeemann at the Kunsthalle Bern. In 1968 and 1972 Raetz was invited to participate at the Documenta in Kassel. He has lived in Amsterdam (1969-1973) and in Carona (1973-1976) as well as undertaken longer trips to Italy, Spain and Morocco among other destinations. In 1977 he settled in Bern. From 1981 to 1982 he stayed in Berlin in conjunction with the "DAAD Berliner Künstlerprogramm" (Artists-in-Berlin Program). Markus Raetz is the recipient of a great many awards and is regularly represented in solo and group exhibitions. He is one of Switzerland's most famous contemporary artists.

A thematically ordered overview of his print oeuvre

The Kunstmuseum Bern owns Markus Raetz's entire print oeuvre and many of his sculptures. The exhibition is based on the Kunstmuseum's extensive holdings of his work; the majority of exhibits on show are the property of the artist. The presentation offers a broad overview of the artist's print oeuvre and takes up the thread of the 1991 exhibition *Markus Raetz: The Print Oeuvre 1958-1991*. Printmaking plays an important role in Markus Raetz's work, boasting over 350 prints. In combination with a selection of sculptures the current exhibition palpably illustrates how strongly both media mutually influence one another. The works in the show have been arranged thematically, zeroing in on especially aspects like "Seeing and Perception", "Landscape", "Physiognomy", "Quotes, References and Homages", "Script / Words", "Two and Three Dimensionality", but also on printmaking techniques such as photogravure or copperplate engraving.

The exhibition and catalogue of the artist's print oeuvre—now revised, updated and reissued after being long out of print—were realized in close cooperation with the artist.

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The Exhibition

Duration: 31.01. – 18.05.2014

Opening: Thursday, 30.01.2014, 18h30

Curator: Claudine Metzger in collaboration with the artist

Entrance Fee: CHF 14.00 / red. CHF 10.00

Further venues of the exhibition:

Musée Jenisch Vevey, Cabinet cantonal des estampes: 26.06. – 04.10.2014

LAC Museo d'arte Lugano: 13.02. – 17.04.2016

The Catalogue



Markus Raetz. Die Druckgraphik. Les estampes. The Prints.
Band I: Catalogue raisonné 1951 – 2013.
Band II: Texte, lectures, essays.

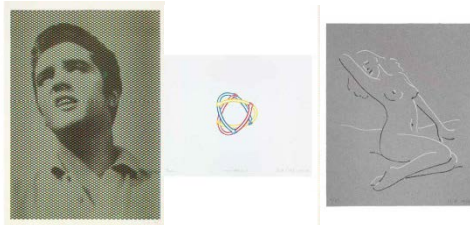
Hrsg. von Rainer Michael Mason in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Kunstmuseum Bern. Mit Beiträgen von Juliane Cosandier, Julie Enckell Julliard, Josef Helfenstein, Lauren Laz, Rainer Michael Mason, Claudine Metzger, Marie-Cécile Miessner, Didier Semin. Texte deutsch, französisch und englisch. 2 Bände, gebunden in Schuber. Total ca. 840 Seiten, 500 farbige Abbildungen, 24 x 31 cm. ISBN 978-3-85881-410-4, ca. CHF 120.00 / € 105.00

The Poster



F4
89,5 x
128 cm
CHF 20.00

The Special Edition



Special Edition of three prints by Markus Raetz:

Nach Elvis, 1978–2013
CHF 2'200.00

Main-tenant, 1972–2013
CHF 1'200.00

Marilyn, 1976/2013
CHF 1'800.00

Subscriptions / Information:
shop@kunstmuseumbern.ch, T +41 31 328 09 44

The Events

Öffentliche Führungen

Sonntag, 11h: 2./16. Februar, 16. März, 13.
April, 4./18. Mai
Dienstag, 19h: 25. Februar, 4. März, 22. April

Visites commentées publiques en français

Mardi 11 mars à 19h30
Mardi 6 mai à 19h30

Public guided tour in English

Tuesday, February 25, 19:30 pm

Einführungen für Lehrpersonen

Dienstag, 11. Februar, 18h
Mittwoch, 12. Februar, 14h

Workshops für Schulklassen: «FRISCH GEDRUCKT»

Stufengerechte Druck-Workshops für Schulklassen
(1.-9. Klasse). Dauer: 90 – 120 Minuten, Preis:
CHF 140.00. Anmeldung: T 031 328 09 11 oder
vermittlung@kunstmuseumbern.ch

Künstlergespräch: Die Kuratorin Claudine Metzger im Gespräch mit dem Künstler Markus Raetz und dem Autor des Werkkatalogs Rainer Michael Mason

Dienstag, 1. April, 19h
Öffentliche Führung 18h,
Ausstellungseintritt genügt.

The exhibition is placed under the patronage of:

Bernhard Pulver, member of the government of the Canton of Bern
Alexander Tschäppät, mayor of the city of Bern

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