

## ***In Exquisite Majesty***

**Hilti Art Foundation opens new exhibition**

**Epidermis – Conditio humana – Cosmos**

**1 November 2019 until 11 October 2020**

Vaduz/Liechtenstein – This is already the fifth exhibition at the Hilti Art Foundation's building, the annexe to Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein that celebrates its fifth birthday next May. Art enthusiasts from all over the world can look forward to seeing a total of thirty-three paintings, sculptures, photographs and other pictorial works that revolve around the themes *Epidermis*, *Conditio humana* and *Cosmos* in a new epoch-spanning display.

The exhibition begins by exploring the theme of *Epidermis*, that is to say, the surfaces of artworks consisting of a wide range of materials including wax, cement, canvas or photographic paper. They are cast, perforated, cut or nailed, fired and lasered. Alongside other high-calibre works, in this room the visitor's eye is attracted to two sculptures by *Medardo Rosso* and *Wilhelm Lehmbruck* from the late 19th and early 20th century. In these works, the surface is manifested as a natural skin represented by wax and cement that traces the highly sensitive forms of a child's head and a woman's body.

In the next room, headed *Conditio humana*, paintings and sculptures from the classical modern period spotlight the circumstances of life as conditions of human existence. *Georges Seurat*, for example, depicts people as anonymous figures at work as an essential activity for making a living. Unlike *Pablo Picasso*, *Alberto Giacometti* and other artists who focus on concrete individuals.

*Cosmos*, the third section of the show, implies a consideration and artistic interpretation of the world with regard to natural and abstract orders. Works by *Ferdinand Hodler* and *Stéphane Kropf* are examples illustrating this sphere: while *Hodler* portrays the Swiss Alps in his 1915 painting *Les Etangs longs bei Montana*, presenting them in exquisite majesty, *Kropf* depicts the Swiss mountains in an

abstract, simplified form in his image created almost a hundred years later on the computer and transferred onto canvas in 2012.

These are among the details that visitors will be able to enjoy at the new exhibition in Vaduz, Liechtenstein. In addition to those mentioned above, the show features works by the following artists, spanning the period from classical modernism to the present: *Josef Albers, Rudolf Belling, Lucio Fontana, Julio González, Joan Miró, Konrad Klapheck, Paul Klee, Hanns Kunitzberger, Piero Manzoni, Otto Piene, Gerhard Richter, Giovanni Di Stefano, Thomas Struth, Frank Thiel, Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart.*

### **Hilti Art Foundation**

The ever-growing art collection of the Hilti Art Foundation now comprises some 250 works. Parts of these treasures are put on public show in varying constellations in small, select exhibitions. One of the stylistic devices employed by the curators is to present certain exhibits from the previous show so as to spotlight particular characteristics of the individual artists. Another aim of presenting the works in a new setting is to encourage art lovers to view them in a different context.

Viewing the exhibition on three floors and 410 square metres is also a special experience from an architectural standpoint. The multi-floor-spanning staircase is an eye-catching "stairway to heaven" that runs from the basement to the first floor with no landings. Taking a 180° turn, it continues—just as steeply and fascinatingly—straight up to the third floor. A highlight in a building that is in other respects deliberately restrained in order to allow the art to take centre stage. After all, user-friendliness takes top priority for **Michael Hilti**, President of the Hilti Art Foundation: "A building like this must above all fulfil its purpose."

**Opening hours**

Hilti Art Foundation at KUNSTMUSEUM LIECHTENSTEIN

Städtle 32, 9490 Vaduz, Liechtenstein

Tuesday to Sunday 10am – 5pm

Thursday 10am – 5pm

Closed on Mondays

**For further information please see Instagram & Facebook and the following websites**

[www.hiltiartfoundation.li](http://www.hiltiartfoundation.li) | [www.kunstmuseum.li](http://www.kunstmuseum.li) | [www.smallcountrygreatart.li](http://www.smallcountrygreatart.li)

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**Admission**

CHF 15.– (reduced rate CHF 10.–)

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