

**Rosso, Klee, Sonnier & more**  
***From a different point of view...***  
**The exhibition has opened!**

Since November 9, 2018, art lovers from all over the world once again have a top destination in Liechtenstein: for the third time a new exhibition has opened in the white-gleaming building of the Hilti Art Foundation, which is affiliated with the Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein. Until March 17, 2019, a total of 36 works from the art collection are presented under the title "**Rosso, Klee, Sonnier & more**", including some outstanding new acquisitions.

The internationally acclaimed art collection of the Hilti Art Foundation comprises 250 works. Scores of these treasures are made amenable to the public step by step in small, fine exhibitions.

No less than three portraits of women by Pablo Picasso are on display. All works clearly have drawn inspiration from particular female companions of the artist, while the color schemes are dramatically different. In *Femme dans un fauteuil* (1932) and *Figure, Femme de trois-quarts gauche* (1934), Marie-Thérèse Walter can be recognized. Picasso meets the ravishing beauty in front of the Lafayette department store in January 1927 and he is so fascinated by her that he depicts her in bright and gaudy colours.

His oil painting *Visage gris foncé au chapeau blanc* from 1947, on the other hand, is entirely decorated in black and gray tones—only a boldly curved hat in white is eye-catching. It was created during his ten-year relationship with Françoise Gilot, but the hat may have been inspired by Dora Maar, Gilot's "predecessor" in the artist's life. As the daughter of a fashionist, Maar had a penchant for extravagant hats, so flamboyant headgear can be found in various Picasso paintings.

**Medardo Rosso** (1858-1928) is represented with, among others, the bronze sculpture *Malato all 'ospedale*, the portrayal of an old, sick man. The artist believes that the first impression of the viewer matters most. Therefore, his sculpture has only one front, while the back is deliberately left in the raw state. For Rosso, walking around a sculpture and examining it from different points of view is useless—just like it would be to walk all around a painting.

To put this characteristic way of Rosso's thinking across, his *Bambino ebreo* is a leftover from the previous exhibition. In this work, the left as well as the rear side of the child's head are "unfinished".

Generally speaking, it has become a curatorial stylistic device in the exhibitions of the Hilti Art Foundation to always showcase some of the exhibits from the previous show. Thus, as here with Rosso, unique characteristics of the artist are stretched to the visitor. In addition to that, the presentation of an artwork in a new environment is meant to stimulate the art lover to view the piece literally from a different angle.

One of **Paul Klee's** (1879-1940) works in this exhibition is *Zank=Duett* from 1938, in which the artist shows two persons confronting each other in enagement in oil on jute. Klee's characteristic feature of the late creative period is the simplified language of lines and forms, which lends force to the depicted conflict in particular.

Clearly more colorful are Klee's works from 1929, the oil painting *Clown* and the watercolour *Märchen*, inspired by a journey through Egypt and the soft and warm light that fascinated the artist on a Nile cruise.

Light installations are the trademark of the American **Keith Sonnier** (born 1941), who lives and works in New York. He uses glass, neon, cables and transformers in his works *Lit Square—right side variation* and *Ba-O-Ba Krefeld IB*.

Rosso, Klee, Sonnier: The names of the artists lend prove to the breadth of exciting art that makes a visit to the exhibition of the Hilti Art Foundation so appealing.

**... & more?**

The spectrum of artists whose works have been selected for the new exhibition ranges from classical modernism to contemporary art: works by Pablo Picasso, Piet Mondrian, Henri Matisse, Wilhelm Lehmbruck, Max Beckmann and Wassily Kandinsky can be seen, among others. Contemporary art is represented with Klaus Staudt and Imi Knoebel, alongside Sonnier.

This mixture is also based on the wish of curator Uwe Wiczorek that every visitor might figure out his own favorite work.

To add to the excitement, a visit to the exhibition over three levels on a total area of 410 square meters also has the makings of a "favorite work" from an architectural point of view. The staircase impresses with a "stairway to heaven", which leads to the first upper floor without a pedestal and from there, after a 180 degree turn, just as steep and fascinating to the third floor—a highlight in a building that otherwise deliberately retreats to let the art do the talking. For Michael Hilti, President of the Hilti Art Foundation, user-friendliness is paramount: "Such a building has to above all meet its purpose."

More information: [www.hiltiartfoundation.li](http://www.hiltiartfoundation.li) und [www.kunstmuseum.li](http://www.kunstmuseum.li)

**Hilti Art Foundation at  
Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein**  
Städtle 32, 9490 Vaduz  
[www.kunstmuseum.li](http://www.kunstmuseum.li)  
[www.hiltiartfoundation.li](http://www.hiltiartfoundation.li)

Opening hours:  
Tuesday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Closed on Mondays

Admission:  
CHF 15, reduced rate CHF 10

**Exhibition catalogue:**

Rosso, Klee, Sonnier & more  
36 works from the collection  
Publisher: Hilti Art Foundation/Uwe Wieczorek  
CHF 12 / EUR 10  
Available at the museum shop or at [www.kunstmuseum.li](http://www.kunstmuseum.li)

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