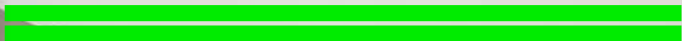




**Aargauer  
Kunsthhaus  
Aarau**



The Aargauer Kunsthaus is an open platform for Art in Switzerland. In constant exchange with our public, we create a space for intellectual and emotional experiences. The Aargauer Kunsthaus aims to provide an inspiring venue for discovery, exploration, dialogue and enjoyment. To this end we are committed with diligence and passion, respect and courage.

The Aargauer Kunsthaus is home to an exceptional collection of Swiss art. This is the foundation on which our exhibition and outreach programme is built. In monographic and thematic exhibitions with both domestic and international emphasis, the Aargauer Kunsthaus is dedicated not only to historical movements in art but also to modern artistic trends, focussing in particular on contemporary art and its relevance in society.

# Open



The Aargauer Kunsthaus actively works to ensure that culture is available and accessible to as many people and as many diverse groups as possible. With a broad spectrum of offerings and initiatives, we foster participation by all individuals living with or without disabilities in cultural events. The *Kultur inklusiv* label recognises this commitment of our institution.

With more than 20,000 works, the Aargauer Kunsthhaus owns the most comprehensive collection of Art from Switzerland dating from the 18th century to the present day.

Major areas of interest are represented by the body of works by Albert Anker, Arnold Böcklin, Johann Heinrich Füssli and Caspar Wolf, as well as the 19th century landscape paintings. Modern art is showcased by important works by Cuno Amiet, Alice Bailly, Ferdinand Hodler and Sophie Taeuber-Arp. Still the range of collection extends beyond this, through Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Swiss Expressionism to the “Zürcher Konkrete”.

Significant purchases and donations of works by contemporary artists such as Silvia Bächli, Julian Charrière, Sylvie Fleury, Thomas Hirschhorn, Zilla Leutenegger, Ugo Rondinone and many others continue the tradition of this collection.

The study, preservation and presentation of the collection is a core concern. The inventory that is accessible online includes over 600 exhibits with detailed historical notes at this point, and the catalogue is constantly being expanded. Publications and thematic exhibitions deepen the ongoing dialogue with the collection and promote its influence.



# Preserve



Time and again, older inventories and new acquisitions are presented together in ever varying and surprising combinations. The objective is to keep this cultural heritage alive and make its importance visible.

The Aargauer Kunsthhaus regularly hosts solo and group exhibitions relating to current issues and social topics, which even challenge our own role as a museum. Yet through it all, the primary focus remains unwaveringly on experiencing creativity and engaging with art: Painting, drawing and sculpture mingle with photography, installation art and video along with other time-based forms such as dance, music and performance.

Every year, the Argauer Kunsthhaus presents the successful exhibitions *Flowers to Art*, with interpretations of works of art created by florists, and the *Auswahl* with artists who are closely connected to the Aargau region. Rooted in Switzerland, but with international connections, the exhibition programme is designed to reach a broad public.





After occupying several different sites, in 1959 the Aargauer Kunsthaus moved into the museum building designed by local architects Loepfe, Hänni and Hänggli. The building with its distinctive spiral staircase has fulfilled its purpose admirably ever since. The highly praised extension by the architects Herzog & de Meuron and artist Rémy Zaugg opened in 2003.

Blending seamlessly with its urban surroundings, the Haus creates a harmonious union of the old and new building between park area and town. While the concourse and foyer with the old and the new spiral staircases are spectacular, they are not overwhelming but open and welcoming. In the exhibition rooms, in contrast, the architecture recedes into the background.

The Aargauer Kunsthaus offers a total of 3000 square metres of exhibition space in brightly lit, expansive galleries. Besides the foyer, completely redesigned in 2023 by the architects Herzog & de Meuron, the museum café and shop entice visitors to linger and browse art books and selected products. The basement houses the outreach workshop and a multifunction room.

An encounter with art stimulates the viewer to observe closely, to categorise and to interpret. Art also encourages those who see it to reconsider their own viewpoints, to expand their perspective and enter into a dialogue. This dialogue plays out in front of the originals, in the studio during the creative process, during events and public outreach formats, or in the digital space.

The digital projects of the Aargauer Kunsthaus pursue two different objectives: On-site offerings, such as the digital curatorial space *Aargauer Kunsthaus Collection – DIY!* or the experiences with Augmented Reality deliver new, participative modes of access, while virtual formats, such as interactive picture viewings and video tours of exhibitions make it possible to experience Art anywhere anytime.







The Aargauer Kunsthaus provides a varied mediation programme for adults, families, schools, persons with disabilities, children, and adolescents: Art workshops, interactive tours in art history, an open workshop for free artistic expression, the *Kunst-Pirsch* art treasure hunt for children, holiday courses for young people with an eye towards inclusion and the popular event series *Kunst für Kleine* art for little ones. Teachers are given specific introductions to the exhibitions. Thematic events such as discussions with artists, dance performances, concerts or book presentations are held on a regular basis.

Guests are able to approach Art in many different ways in the stimulating environment of the Aargauer Kunsthaus. Guided tours customised to individual needs, private events with apéritifs, creative workshops as continuing education, team and customer events or lunch appointments—all of these can be arranged at the Aargauer Kunsthaus.





**Participate**

Get closer to Art, become involved in the work of the museum, support the programme, help to shape the future: The Aargauer Kunsthaus offers many ways to engage. By including people from a wide variety of different backgrounds, the Aargauer Kunsthaus is making every effort to position itself as a platform for diverse, inter-generational stakeholders and their specific needs. Anyone who is interested can enrol as a volunteer, a member of the Aargau Art Association, as a Patron, or join the association Friends of the Aargau Art Collection: Lively minds and willing hands are always welcome.

The Aargau Art Association is one of the oldest and largest art societies in Switzerland. It was founded in 1860 with the objective of building an attractive collection of art from Switzerland, establishing a museum and promoting the understanding of fine art. Today, the annual membership dues from the approximately 2000 members of the Kunstverein represent a significant contribution to the success of the exhibitions hosted by the Aargauer Kunsthaus. The association members enrich the cultural life of the canton, and as ambassadors for culture and its social impact, they bring an awareness of art into society.

Young members of the association (aged 0–20) can enjoy events designed exclusively for them, which are announced by newsletter. Children and adolescents discover Art with offerings tailored for their age groups.



**Aargau Art  
Association**



# Friends of the Aargau Art Collection

The Association of Friends of the Aargau Art Collection supports the Aargauer Kunsthaus mainly with new acquisitions. Since its founding in 1944, the Association has collected outstanding works by Max Bill, Johann Heinrich Füssli, Paul Klee, Mai-Thu Perret, Markus Raetz, Shirana Shahbazi, Sophie Taeuber-Arp and others. These art works considerably enhance the already strong reputation of the collection while the primary purpose of the Association is to study, care for and provide instruction about the collection. Its members benefit from the exchange and meetings at exclusive events held at the Aargauer Kunsthaus and with group excursions and art trips.

The patrons of the Aargauer Kunsthaus are a closely knit community of benefactors around the team. They oversee and promote the activities of the Kunsthaus with ideas and financial support. With their contributions, the patrons fund one exhibition per year. They also have the opportunity to gain unique insights into the artists' work in exclusive encounters. Interacting with like-minded people and the Kunsthaus team, they experience Art personally and at first hand.

# Patrons





Interested persons can become actively involved in the life of the Aargauer Kunsthau and support our offerings.

A wide range of opportunities are available. Volunteers lend their support at workshops or events as well as the major *Flowers to Art* exhibition, among many other activities. Behind the scenes, they perform archiving tasks, assist in accessible activities, or help with the digital presentation.

With their valuable support, volunteers contribute vastly to the team and ensure that every visit to the Aargauer Kunsthau is enjoyable.





# Admission

Adults	17.00
Children and youth (up to age 16)	free
Students/apprentices (up to age 26)	12.00
Kulturlegi discount	5.00
Group rate (per person, groups of 10 and more)	10.00

The Aargauer Kunsthaus is  
wheelchair-accessible.

# Museum shop

Find publications, art literature, children's books,  
editions, films, art postcards, posters, and much  
more on: [shop.aargauerkunsthaus.ch](http://shop.aargauerkunsthaus.ch)

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P. 16 Exhibition view with works by Franz Gertsch and Markus Müller,  
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P. 18 Photo: ullmann.photography  
P. 21 Alexandre Calame, *Bergsturz im Haslital*, 1839,  
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P. 22 Mai-Thu Perret, *Untitled (after no. 067)*, 2020, photo: Conradin Frei  
P. 26 Photo: ullmann.photography  
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P. 28 Exhibition view with works by Hans Arp, Andreas Christen,  
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Aargauer Kunsthaus

Opening hours

Aargauerplatz

Tue—Sun 10 am—5 pm

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Thu 10 am—8 pm

Mon closed

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Sponsorship



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