

05-05-2018 TO
23-09-2018

AARGAUER KUNSTHAUS, ON THE ROAD
10 YEARS OF CARAVAN – SERIES OF
EXHIBITIONS OF YOUNG ART

ON THE ROAD

Exhibition

“On the Road” is a group exhibition that celebrates the tenth anniversary of the CARAVAN – Series of Exhibitions of Young Art. In keeping with the mobile concept of the exhibition series, ten artists from all over Switzerland present new work at various locations in the Kunsthhaus. The works lodge themselves in the lower level, in the upstairs galleries devoted to the collection, in the foyer, and outside the museum. Use this exhibition guide to embark on a “parcours de CARAVAN”!

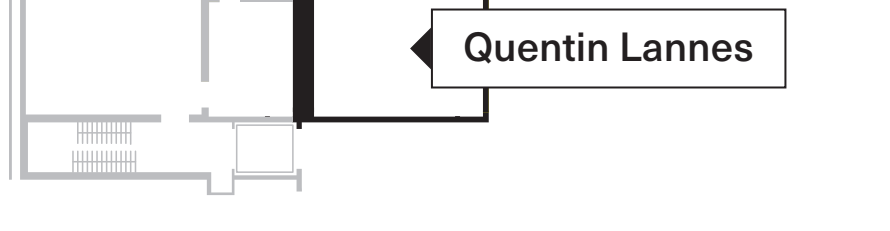
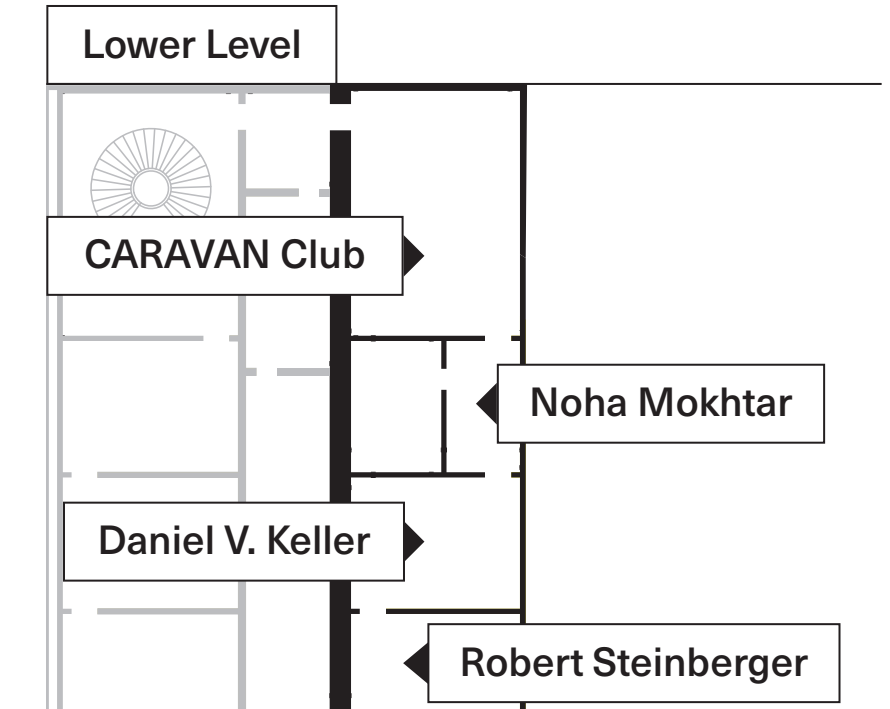
Artists

BRIGHAM BAKER
LOUISA GAGLIARDI
DANIEL V. KELLER
ARIANE KOCH & SARINA SCHEIDEGGER
QUENTIN LANNES
MARTA MARGNETTI
NOHA MOKHTAR
THOMAS MOOR

ROBERT STEINBERGER SHIRIN YOUSEFI

CARAVAN

Launched in 2008, the “CARAVAN – Series of Exhibitions of Young Art” offers the public a chance to encounter emerging Swiss artists. Its name, CARAVAN, is programmatic: artists use various spaces of the Aargauer Kunsthaus for their work, in the process engaging in a dialogue with museum’s architecture, collection and programme.



LOWER LEVEL > NOHA MOKHTAR
 B. IN GENEVA IN 1987, LIVES IN ZURICH AND SOMERVILLE (USA)

“Dream Box” (2018) by Noha Mokhtar is an imaginary interior scene presenting itself as a stage set. The artist draws on the representative function of the living room in the Egyptian tradition. Yet the individual elements here, such as the colourful pillows representing the various channels of the Egyptian TV station “Nilesat”, are arranged in surreal combinations. The title “Dreambox” refers to the eponymous receiver device for digitally transmitted television service, which is also hugely popular in Egypt.

LOWER LEVEL > DANIEL V. KELLER
 B. IN MÜNSTERLINGEN IN 1987, LIVES IN ZURICH AND LONDON (GB)

In his installation “Nach morgen blinzeln/One eye already gone” (2018), Daniel V. Keller creates a peculiar landscape. The space is populated by various objects and sculptures made of hardened sand. The latter appear as decaying structures and evoke memories of sand castles as well as architectural ruins. Creation and destruction seem to meld here. The aluminium profiles with LED light placed on the floor enhance the bizarre, forlorn atmosphere which may very well be interpreted as an abstracted critical vision of the future.

LOWER LEVEL > ROBERT STEINBERGER
 B. IN COLOGNE (D) IN 1989, LIVES IN ZURICH

The works of Robert Steinberger focus on interpersonal relations. His media include language, the voice, music, and movement, which he combines in haunting performances. His current work, “I tried to write you a love song” (2018), reflects on the challenges of communication in intimate relationships. Semi-transparent curtains hint at a room within the room which at the same time serves as the stage for a performance. The artist announces the performance on 27 June with a personal invitation.

LOWER LEVEL > QUENTIN LANNES
 B. IN EVREUX (F) IN 1989, LIVES IN GENEVA

The video work “Racing a Ghost” (2018) by Quentin Lannes combines fiction, strategies of documentary film, and virtual reality to create a topical narrative about our digital footprint. We follow a young woman into the house of her childhood and into a room that turns out to be her lost brother’s bedroom. On the outdated video console, the protagonist plays a rally game in

which her opponent is none other than her — teenage — brother. In the form of a ghostly racing car, his avatar follows on the heels of the young woman’s vehicle, which leads to an encounter of the siblings in virtual space that is as bizarre as it is moving.

CARAVAN Club

LOWER LEVEL > CARAVAN CLUB
 KATRIN MURBACH, B. IN ZURICH IN 1984, LIVES IN ZURICH
 FABIAN JAGGI, B. IN GSTAAD IN 1982, LIVES IN ZURICH

The CARAVAN Club designed by the Zürich-based scenographers of “Ortreport”, serves as focal point of the exhibition. True to the latter’s motto, “On the Road”, the space exudes an atmosphere of wanderlust. The glossy magazine that is on display reviews the past 30 CARAVAN exhibitions and thus provides the perfect pool reading.

Ground Floor

GROUND FLOOR > MARTA MARGNETTI
 B. IN MENDRISIO IN 1989, LIVES IN LUGANO

The installation “B L A B L A A L L ' A L B A” (2018) by Marta Margnetti consists of fourteen boards placed on the tables of the Kunsthhaus café. The work is closely connected to the surrounding space, which is typical of Margnetti’s work. Its Italian title (which may be translated as “blabbing in the grey of dawn”) plays with the repetition of the letters A, B, and L and is inspired by the evenings at an art and culture space in Lugano, where artists and musicians often talk until the crack of dawn. The sentences and drawings scratched into the boards are referring to those conversations.

Upper Level



UPPER LEVEL > LOUISA GAGLIARDI
 B. IN LAUSANNE IN 1989, LIVES IN ZURICH

As if in a dream, proportions and perspectives shift in the bizarre scenes of Louisa Gagliardi’s paintings. The artist creates these images on the computer, has them printed on PVC, and carefully adds highlights so that the machine-produced painting appears beguilingly “real”. The works arranged around the staircase focus on the — not always unproblematic — relationship between nature and man. In “Solar Stretch” (2018) and “Lunar Gloom” (2018), deserted landscapes are superimposed with human shadows of eerie origin. At the same time, the tools with which man takes “possession” of nature are placed along the side wall.

UPPER LEVEL > SHIRIN YOUSEFI
 B. IN TEHRAN (IR) IN 1986, LIVES IN LAUSANNE

Shirin Yousefi favours ephemeral media and responds to existing contexts with scents, sounds, and moving elements. A lectern seems to be placed at an odd location, surrounded by works of Hannah Villiger and Johann Heinrich Füssli. Who is speaking to whom here? And about what? The platform discreetly exudes the mouldy smell of an abandoned alley: certainly not a place that invites one to linger. Around the lectern and in other spaces of the Kunsthhaus, robotic vacuum cleaners buzz around. With pieces of fabric printed with quotes and neologisms from social media attached to them, they put the format of political speeches in the age of Twitter and Co. up for discussion.

UPPER LEVEL > BRIGHAM BAKER
 B. IN NIPOMO (USA) IN 1989, LIVES IN ZURICH

Brigham Baker positions himself at the intersection of nature and art with his artistic practice. The roof light ceiling of the galleries in the old building are the object of a subtle intervention (“Eucalyptus”, 2018) linking architecture and nature. In the collection gallery devoted to landscape painting and featuring works by Caspar Wolf and Robert Zünd, a poetic shadow play unfolds above our heads. Outlines of plants dance across the semi-transparent suspended ceiling. Branches of Eucalyptus are seemingly moved by magic, as if a tree swaying in the wind were casting its shadow — in an architecture aiming to create ideal — that is, as shadow-free as possible — lighting conditions for art viewing.

UPPER LEVEL > THOMAS MOOR
 B. IN AARAU IN 1988, LIVES IN GENEVA

The works of Thomas Moor frequently focus on the art industry and its entanglement in society, politics, and commerce. The starting point of his installation “THE LOBBY” (2018) in the Kunsthhaus collection is the last series of Swiss banknotes portraying major figures from the worlds of art and culture. The artist turns shredded notes into pulp and makes handmade, variously hued papers that appeal to the history of Minimal Art. In a space whose design oscillates between the aesthetic of lounges at art fairs and the front room of a banker’s office, this series is juxtaposed with works created by the individu-

als portrayed on the notes — for example, two works by Alberto Giacometti and Sophie Taeuber-Arp, as well as music by Arthur Honegger and furniture-pieces by Le Corbusier.

UPPER LEVEL > ARIANE KOCH, B. IN BASEL IN 1988 & SARINA SCHEIDEGGER, B. IN BERN IN 1985, LIVE IN BASEL

The artist duo Ariane Koch and Sarina Scheidegger respond to five selected works from the collection in their performances “Untitled (Performer with Painting)” (2018). The performer (Meret Mundwiler) moves at select times on the upper level while reciting a text which, each time, focuses on one artwork. In doing so, she builds a textual bridge to the pictorial worlds, contrasting the static work on the wall with the fleetingness of the spoken word. The poster in front of the museum, which changes each month, also makes direct reference to the selected work in the collection. Performances take place on 4 May / 10 June / 8 July / 11 August / 22 September

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CARAVAN Day

On Saturday, 22.9.2018, we invite everybody to join us in celebrating the tenth anniversary of the CARAVAN series with a varied programme including workshops, talks, guided tours, and performances, as well as music and drinks towards the evening. A detailed programme will be available on the web platform starting in July.

Programme

GUIDED TOURS, PERFORMANCES AND ARTISTS’ TALKS		
MAY		
04-05-2018	6PM	13-05-2018 11AM-4PM
Opening		Family Sunday “Tag, Like, Share – The Hyperconnected Museum”
04-05-2018	6-8PM	
Performance by Ariane Koch & Sarina Scheidegger		17-05-2018 6.30 PM
		Louisa Gagliardi, Ariane Koch, and Thomas Moor in conversation with Yasmin Afschar

caravan.aargauerkunsthhaus.ch

On the web platform launched especially for the exhibition you will find images and further readings on the artists, news & information as well as the digital archive of all previous CARAVAN exhibitions.

Curators: Yasmin Afschar and Katrin Weilenmann
 Curatorial Assistance: Aïcha Revellat
 Graphic design: Nayla Baumgartner and Fabio Menet
 Programming web platform: Daniel Stutz and Samuel Weidmann