

Zeitschrift: Die Schweiz = Suisse = Svizzera = Switzerland : offizielle Reisezeitschrift der Schweiz. Verkehrszentrale, der Schweizerischen Bundesbahnen, Privatbahnen ... [et al.]

Herausgeber: Schweizerische Verkehrszentrale

Band: 47 (1974)

Heft: 7

Rubrik: Film und Theater

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Locarno: «Neue Perspektiven des Films»

«Neue Perspektiven des Films» heisst das neue Motto des Locarneser Festivals, an dem dieses Jahr erstmals ein Sonderpreis für das beste Erstlingswerk vergeben wird. Das 27. Festival in Locarno, das vom 1. bis 11. August stattfindet (Nyon folgt vom 21. bis 27. Oktober), gliedert sich wiederum in die bewährten fünf Abteilungen: Wettbewerbsfilme (Werke, deren stilistische oder thematische Tendenzen neue Perspektiven der Filmgestaltung erschliessen, besonders auch Werke von neuen Regisseuren und jungen Filmländern); FIPRESCI-Wochen (mit Werken, die von den Filmkritikern für Locarno empfohlen wurden); Information über das schweizerische Filmschaffen; Retrospektive und Freie Tribüne der Filmproduzenten.

Avantgarde-Filmwochen in Montreux

Unter dem Motto «New Form in Film» zeigt Montreux vom 3. bis 23. August ein dreiwöchiges Programm moderner amerikanischer Filme, die resolut neue Wege gehen. Wenn auch einige der an diesem Festival teilnehmenden Realisatoren, wie Stan Brakhage und Michael Snow, etwa durch fragmentarische Aufführungen in der europäischen Filmwelt bereits bekannt geworden sind, werden auch ihre Werke, wie die der jüngeren Filmschaffenden Ernie Gehr, Harry Smith, Joyce Wieland, Yvonne Rainer u. a., zum erstenmal hier detailliert und in kritischer Perspektive vorgeführt. Das Publikum hat Gelegenheit, sich in Diskussionen mit den Autoren auseinanderzusetzen. In dieser Veranstaltung soll zum Ausdruck gelangen, wie der «American Underground» zum Drehpunkt der internationalen Avantgarde geworden ist.

Spiez:

Klassisches Spiel im Schlosshof

Das theaterspielfreudige Spiez hat sich – recht mutig – für die Schlossspiele dieses Sommers Goethes Trauerspiel «Egmont» aufs Programm gesetzt. Es sind ausnahmslos Laienspieler, die sich unter der Regie von Frau Ruth Maria Burri aus Bern für dieses Spiel einsetzen. Die Premiere der Freilichtaufführung im Hof des Schlosses Spiez ist auf den 9. August angesetzt; weitere Spieltage sind bis 7. September jeweils der Dienstag, Donnerstag und Samstag. Dass es kein unproblematisches Unterfangen ist, mit Laienspielern ein klassisches Drama als Freilichtspiel aufzuführen, dessen sind sich die Veranstalter durchaus bewusst. Geben wir der Regisseurin das Wort: «Wir versuchen, dieses Werk Goethes in unserem Empfinden gemäss, moderner Verknappung zu gestalten. Vor allem fasziniert uns die Möglichkeit, in einem klassischen Stück noch heute aktuelle geistige und politische Verhaltensweisen und Auseinandersetzungen aufzuzeigen.»

French sculpture of the Middle Ages

The Museum of Art and History in Fribourg is presenting a representative show of medieval sculpture for the fourth time. An exhibition new to Switzerland of "Medieval Sculpture from Bordeaux and the Bordelais" opens there on July 9. Numerous collections and institutions from within the Département de la Gironde have selected works of high distinction or of characteristic significance. Four chronological groups are being presented: "From Roman to Romanesque Art", "Gothic Art from the 13th to 15th Centuries", "The English contribution to the late Middle Ages, in particular alabaster sculpture" and "From Gothic to Renaissance". Thus, thanks to generous donations, the artistic spirit of the Middle Ages in south-western France can be manifested.

A great epoch of Viennese art

The representative exhibition entitled "Early Century Austrian Art" may be considered one of the major events organised by the extremely active Lucerne Art Association during 1974. The city of Vienna was a centre for the revitalisation of all internationally recognised art forms from the turn of the century. The versatile and enterprising personality of Gustav Klimt, who lived from 1862 to 1918 and who was both painter and brilliant décor artist, stimulated the artistic life of the city with his fresh impulses. As leading exponent of the Viennese "Jugendstil", he produced lively, ornamental figure paintings. Gustav Klimt played a dominating rôle in the "Viennese Secession", the School of Applied Arts at the "Viennese Workshops", which aspired to a stylistic revival of handicraft art. This great instigator exerted an indirect influence over large parts of central Europe. The "Viennese Secession", presided over by Gustav Klimt, which published its own journal, the "Ver sacrum", already possessed its own premises, one of the earliest expressions of the new style, for its second scheduled exhibition in 1898. The exhibitions of 1902 and 1904 were also important events. Oskar Kokoschka, who also felt a certain affinity with Switzerland, achieved fame throughout Europe.

Painting and graphic art

The Grisons artist Leonhard Meisser, who lives in Chur and two years ago reached the age of seventy, is guest at the Interlaken Kursaal with an attractive show of work. He is appreciated above all for his poetic representation of landscapes in all seasons and he is, too, widely known as a portrait painter and formulator of graphic works full of atmosphere. The Historical Museum in St. Gallen, which is currently taking the place of the Museum of Art for exhibitions, is throwing light on the novel theme of "Art as Daily Experience". Collectors in eastern Switzerland make comments on their favourite works. They therefore provide inspiration for a deeper appreciation of art. The Landenberg room of Arbon castle by Lake Constance is affording accommodation for coloured wood carvings by Ferdinand Kaus until July 21, while the Folklore Museum in the Corn House at

Rorschach is displaying pictures by Albert Saner with the theme "Ships". Tribute is paid to Albert Nyfeler in the Lötschental with a picture show at Kippel, from where the outstanding and intrepid Alpine painter set out into the mountains to pay homage to his native land through his art. This site also houses popular art of the Lötschental. To turn now to French speaking Switzerland, there is an exhibition in the castle of Romont of pictures, religious works of art and the lithographic work of the Italian artist Gino Severini, who was a member of the Italian avant-garde as a representative of futurism. Finally, a welcome can be extended to "Artists of the Vaud" at the Lausanne Museum of Art, while the Cabinet des Estampes in Geneva is displaying the beauty of Persian miniatures.

Art in Poland

The large exhibition "Art in Poland from Gothic to the present day" on view for an extended period at the Zurich Art Gallery, covers many years in the history of art. It illustrates the culture of a nation situated between east and west Europe which flourished as a result but was accompanied by much suffering. Many artists worked in this country who were not themselves Polish. Decisive epochs in the cultural life of Poland rich in highlights of a diversified output are given prominence. Gothic art is represented by sculpture with a large, painted 14th century sidepiece from Graudenz and the late Gothic altar by Hans Memling (portraying the Last Judgment) from Danzig. Tapestries recalling the Renaissance originate from Cracow castle. In those days the city was the centre of the Polish empire. The 18th century saw the "Turkish Period" when Turkish craft workers were active in Poland. Warsaw later emerged as the new capital. Canaletto painted various aspects of the city in the 18th century which are now used as models for rebuilding purposes. Of more recent origin are pictures, above all from the Museum of Art in Lodz.

Festival music at leading resorts

The concerts of the Engadine Festival can be heard from July 10 to August 20 and will include orchestral and chamber music in addition to recitals by leading soloists in churches and festival halls of ten places between St. Moritz and Scuol. The Munich Chamber Orchestra is to play in St. Moritz and Pontresina during the month of August. Arosa will play host to an International Organ Week from July 15 to 21. Braunwald in Glarus canton is to present the 39th Music Festival (July 11 to 21) with recitals and concerts. In the Bernese Oberland the fourteenth Music Festival at Meiringen (July 3 to 13) will include a performance on July 6 of the oratorio "The Creation" by Haydn. Following a "Forum for Music and Movement" at Lenk with well-known artists, there will be a series of concerts and festival events at the "Lenk Art Festival". In Central Switzerland it is, above all, the highly enterprising resort of Engelberg which enlivens its summer season each year with a music festival, while the Valais is again to stage its Tibor Varga Festival at Sion.