

Exploration 1 Sat 15th Sept 11:00
Soirée 1 Thu 24th May 18:30
Exploration 2 Tue 2nd Oct 18:30
Soirée 2 Thu 13th Sept 18:30
Exploration 3 Wed 3rd Oct 18:30
Soirée 3 Fri 14th Sept 18:30
Exploration 4 Sat 6th Oct 16:30
Soirée 4 Sat 15th Sept 18:30
Exploration 5 Thu 4th Oct 18:30
Soirée 5 Fri 5th Oct 18:30
Exploration 6 Fri 5th Oct 18:30
Soirée 6 Thu 22nd Nov 18:30
Exploration 7 Sat 6th Oct 20:00
Soirée 7 Fri 23rd Nov 17:00
Exploration 8 Sat 15th Sept 11:00
Soirée 8 Thu 24th May 18:30
Exploration 9 Fri 14th Sept 18:30
Soirée 9 Fri 23rd Nov 19:00
Exploration 10 Sat 15th Sept 18:30
Soirée 10 Sat 24th Nov 18:00

En marge de l'architecture

Encounters beyond the discipline

swiss arts council
prohelvetia

Salon d'ouverture 24th May 2018
Embarking for a journey

Thu	24 th May	18:30	Soirée 1
-----	----------------------	-------	----------

2^{ème} Salon 13th – 15th September 2018
Reconsidering the cultural value of architecture

Thu	13 th Sept	18:30	Soirée 2
Fri	14 th Sept	18:30	Soirée 3
Sat	15 th Sept	11:00	Exploration 1
Sat	15 th Sept	18:30	Soirée 4

3^{ème} Salon 2nd – 6th October 2018
Investigating space as medium

Tue	2 nd Oct	18:30	Exploration 2
Wed	3 rd Oct	18:30	Exploration 3
Thu	4 th Oct	18:30	Soirée 5
Fri	5 th Oct	18:30	Soirée 6
Sat	6 th Oct	18:30	Exploration 4
Sat	6 th Oct	20:00	Soirée 7

4^{ème} Salon 22nd – 24th November 2018
Sailing into tomorrow – but how?

Thu	22 nd Nov	18:30	Soirée 8
Fri	23 rd Nov	17:00	Exploration 5
Fri	23 rd Nov	19:00	Soirée 9
Sat	24 th Nov	18:00	Soirée 10

Introduction

Marcel Bächtiger
Tim Kammasch
Laura Tinti
Stanislas Zimmermann

The Salon Suisse offers a series of lectures, talks and cultural events supplementing the exhibition at the Swiss Pavilion. Curated by architectural historian Marcel Bächtiger, cultural theorist Tim Kammasch and architect Stanislas Zimmermann with the support of local Salonnière Laura Tinti, this year's programme is an invitation to a journey. If architecture is an island within the archipelago of the artistic and scientific disciplines, then the Salon is a ship that has left the harbour. From foreign shores, we will look back at architecture and explore its cultural and social relevance today.

Global economic interdependencies affect the existence of every individual; the complexities of transnational power and decision-making undermine democracy and civic engagement; the dizzying pace of digitalisation is redefining human beings and their living environment. Inevitably, these phenomena also affect the self-concept of architecture and architects. The traditional role of architecture as built expression of society seems to become increasingly marginalised. Is "architecture" merely a dazzling disguise of realities that it can no longer influence nor shape? Do architects find themselves degraded to being vicarious agents of an anonymous real estate market? What social and cultural significance can the built environment have under these circumstances? And what would a culture that deserves being called 'human' look like architecturally?

In the long history of architecture, such moments have always proved most fruitful when the discourse opened up to ideas, insights and inventions from other disciplines. Today, it is time to set sail again. On our journey, we will encounter philosophers and anthropologists, writers, musicians and artists, comparatists and social researchers. By discussing their work and its link to architecture, the Salon Suisse will open new perspectives, not only on the potentials of architecture in the 21st century, but also on hidden connections that have always existed among the different disciplines.

At the Palazzo Trevisan, we will revive the Enlightenment idea of the "Salon" as a place for cultivated, informative conversations and convivial, sociable exchange. Each soirée is also a cultural event: a concert, a lecture or a performance; a tangible sensory experience that will initiate conversation between the audience and our guests, all of them present over the whole length of a salon.

Salon d'ouverture 24th May 2018

Embarking on a journey

If architecture is an island in the archipelago of artistic and scientific disciplines, then the Salon is the ship that leaves the safe haven. The embarkation is a solemn affair: words of welcome are offered, speeches delivered, clement weather and friendly winds are wished upon the voyagers. Before the departure, exotic songs emanate from the ship's belly. Times may be difficult, one of the expedition leaders calls to the passengers, but our journey is full of hope. In the long history of architecture, moments like these have always proved most productive, because its discourse opened up to the ideas, insights and inventions of other sciences and arts. Today it is time again to broaden the horizon, hoist sails and set out to foreign shores.

2ème Salon 13th – 15th September 2018

Reconsidering the cultural value of architecture

Stormy winds toss us onto the shores of a first group of islands: here we encounter philosophers, a comparatist and a "promeneur" in space and time. We hear many a thing: why is architecture a worthy subject for philosophical reflections, for example, and to what extent are these relevant to the practice of architecture. A currently highly controversial term is being deliberated: "cultural value" – what could / should that of architecture consist of today? How does architecture affect everyday life, how does it interact with people? What testimony do literary discourses give in this regard and to what extent do they represent an enrichment of architectural theory? And how is the imaginary in literature and film reflected in the practice of architectural design?

3ème Salon 2nd – 6th October 2018

Investigating space as medium

Twenty years ago, the Bertelsmann Foundation's report to the Club of Rome on the topic of "The Limits of Social Cohesion" shed light on potential sources of friction in nation states around the globe. Looking back, the report reads as a prediction of the civil wars that have erupted worldwide and social upheavals that have taken place since then. The question of "How to live together?" (Roland Barthes) is of more existential importance than ever today.

As we reach the middle stage of our journey, we will meet guests from anthropology, sociology, art and the history of photography and architecture. From various perspectives, they will direct their gaze to the collective space wherein our daily lives take place. They will deal with the social behaviour of humans, their perception of space and the interaction with the built environment as well as with the architectural and artistic strategies to interpret and shape this world.

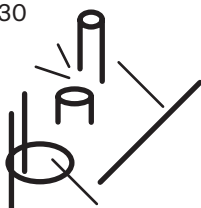
4ème Salon 22nd – 24th November 2018

Sailing into tomorrow – but how?

The year, as well as the Salon, is drawing to a close, but winds and waves are propelling us further into the unknown. In moonlit November nights, we venture a glimpse into the future: what is the nature of the conditions, opportunities and dangers at the dawn of the 21st century? What can we expect from Big Data and Artificial Intelligence? Will the world dissolve into numbers? What does the "fourth industrial revolution" signify for both individuals and society, how will it change our everyday lives? In order to ensure that the outlook to the future does not remain technocentric, but also considers sense and sensuality, the fourth Salon will unite macro-sociologists and AI researchers with architects, artists, writers and architectural historians. Various routes are to be discussed: paths to a contemporary culture that deserves to be called "humane".

Soirée 1 Thu 24th May 18:30

Martina Brodbeck Fritz Hauser Hanns Zischler

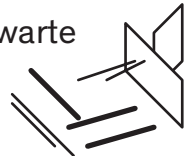


The first soirée is a reminiscence on what is arguably the oldest relationship that architecture entertains beyond its disciplinary boundaries. Since antiquity, music has been regarded as architecture's sister art form, its proportions as an analogon to harmony. Beyond the dictum "frozen music", every architectural space is also a sound space, just as any musical performance also constitutes a spatial experience.

Fritz Hauser and Martina Brodbeck make improvised music. In the sense of an architectural-musical interaction, they will perform in the hall of the Palazzo Trevisan as a sound(ing) body. After the Saloniers' opening speech, Hanns Zischler will bring the evening to a close with a rendition of his song from the cult film "Berlin Chamissoplatz" (1980), on the house's own grand piano. He will thus make audible how the atmosphere of the Berlin perimeter may be condensed in the fleeting form of a song.

Soirée 2 Thu 13th Sept 18:30

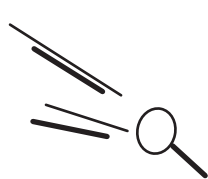
Jörg Gleiter
Ludger Schwarte



Why and to what end do we need a philosophy of architecture? The two initiators of the first international symposium for architectural philosophy (2012), Jörg Gleiter and Ludger Schwarte, will discuss the concept of "Freespace" and use concrete examples to offer insights into various approaches to the philosophical examination of such free spaces. The contributions of our guests will explore how architecture and perceptions of architecture work, as well as the aesthetic, epistemic and political norms that play a role therein, and will address critical questions relating to the contribution of philosophy to the practice of architecture.

Exploration 2 Tue 2nd Oct 18:30

Sebastian Bührig



The city dweller's reserve is one of humanity's greatest cultural achievements because the wonderful diversity of people can sometimes only be endured in the company of strangers. To that end, there needs to be some space in which we may – but don't need to – be alien to ourselves in peace. If one wants to learn something about the city dwellers' existence next to, above, below, against, together or jumbled up with each other, in short: about the interpersonal dimension, it is necessary to mingle, to observe, to question, to describe and to marvel. Our guest, the urbanist Sebastian Bührig, will tell us how he "listens with eyes wide open" at the fringes of fellowship, in order to understand opposites, contradictions and commonalities, and how he bears witness in a profound and poetic description: beyond the reserve, there is not infrequently a surprise rendezvous with chance.

Soirée 8 Thu 22nd Nov 18:30

Steffen Mau



Are we heading towards an evaluating society in which everything and everyone is rated and ranked? Just how qualified are the judgments to which we expose images on social media, products and services, schools and universities or our learning and social behaviour? Data-based information is indispensable for the self-governance of societies. The problem arises with the assumption that social reality can entirely and objectively be represented as or in numbers. Scoring and ranking are furthermore based on evaluation criteria that are not neutral. In the context of New Public Management, particular interest groups, such as rating agencies, are increasingly gaining a significant interpretive monopoly and thus influence on government actions. In his lecture "The data society: The rise of digital capitalism", our guest Steffen Mau will use examples to illustrate the consequences of quantifying and competitively constructed interpretations for social coexistence.

Soirée 3 Fri 14th Sept 18:30

Tim Kammasch
Caroline Torra-Mattenklott
Hanns Zischler



Does it matter what language the discourse of architecture speaks? Do we build prosaically because we also speak and think this way? However, the excessively literal transfers of rhetorical figures and metaphors to the language of architecture has failed all too often. But how do literati articulate architecture, to which aspects of architecture do they draw our attention? Drawing on literary accounts of journeys to Italy from three centuries, the speakers of the evening, Caroline Torra-Mattenklott and Tim Kammasch, will illustrate those observations that architecture has stimulated in writers and reveal what potential they have recognized in architecture. Their selection of excerpts from works of Moritz, Goethe, Proust and Benjamin will be read by the actor Hanns Zischler who will enrich the salon talk also with another medium that reflects poetically on architecture.

Exploration 3 Wed 3rd Oct 18:30

Marcel Bächtiger



The third exploration again approaches the island of architecture, but now from an unfamiliar direction. Emerging from the fog on the horizon, its hazy outlines invite speculation: is what we call architecture indeed identical to its concrete built appearance? Is architecture a tangible object or an image? Should it be regarded as a medium which, like film or literature, depicts the world by its own means, or does its peculiarity precisely stem from the fact that it does not represent anything but is itself an active part of this world? And what if architecture becomes its own replica? Platonic questions, indeed, but faced with the contemporary architectural production, they are explosive and topical. Using concrete examples, the lecture will examine current trends in architecture and urban planning.

Exploration 5 Fri 23th Nov 17:00

Corrado Chiatti
Chiara Faggionato
Daniele Tucci



The fifth Exploration leads into the midst of the historic centre, where a temporary installation will offer the opportunity to screen a movie. Created by Laura Tinti, the installation "Dot dash Dot!" is inspired by a distinct characteristic of Campo Santa Margherita: the remains of structural elements for a vegetable stand. A two-dimensional support consisting of two dots and a line (as in Morse code) will create a multimedia short circuit within the chaos of the square. The short film shown inverts the situation: in "Ardeidae", a group of Asian tourists gets lost in the unknown territories of the lagoon. The film by Corrado Chiatti, Chiara Faggionato and Daniele Tucci was the winner of the Lago Film Festival and the PerSo Film Festival and was awarded a Special Mention at the Arcipelago Film Fest Roma.

The Exploration includes a short walk to Campo Santa Margherita. Exploration Duration: 1.5 hours (in all weather conditions).

Soirée 4 Sat 15th Sept 11:00

Stanislas Zimmermann



In the lecture "The Anatomy of the Lagoon", Stanislas Zimmermann will trace the eventful environmental history of the lagoon of Venice. Recognising the central strategic importance of the lagoon for the maritime city-state, the Republic of Venice has been working hard to preserve it since the early Middle Ages. Mile-long canals were created and numerous rivers diverted. But often the interventions have resulted in the opposite of the desired effect. Over the centuries, the organism of the lagoon, dominated by natural elements, has become an artificial environment, controlled by human hands. After the talk, a former fishing boat will take us on a four-hour excursion to the north of the lagoon to follow the traces of history and observe the current situation on location.

Since there is a limited number of seats in the fishing boat, kindly reserve your place at biennials@prohelvetia.ch between 10th and 14th September 2018. Exploration Duration: 6,5 hours (in all weather conditions).

Soirée 5 Thu 4th October 18:30

Markus Draper
Patricia Hämmerle



Is there a specific artistic sensitivity in considering reality, space, architecture? When does the observing look turn into a creative gaze? How do phenomena of the material world become works of art?

The artist Markus Draper's "Dream House and Ideologies" is an introduction to a work which has its origin in German (construction) history: at the time when the West German magazine "Schöner Wohnen" ("Better living") kindled the dream of a home of one's own, former leftist terrorists found their new home in prefabricated buildings in East Germany.

Patricia Hämmerle will present works from her series "Out of the Dark", whose unifying topic is to make visible again images that have vanished into the darkness of time or space: fragments of a collective reality, which through processes in the photo lab are brought back to an enigmatic new presence.



Soirée 9 Fri 23th Nov 19:00

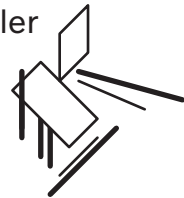
Mercedes Bunz

What was once dumb matter, begins to speak. What man has just learned to operate, now takes independent decisions. And what man still regards guilelessly, already reciprocates the gaze. The digitisation of our living environment is advancing inexorably, capturing things and buildings and cities, as well as the human body.

In a lecture at the ninth soirée of Salon Suisse, cultural scientist Mercedes Bunz will present her views on the social implications of digitisation. Bunz is currently researching the use of artificial intelligence in medicine and has just published a highly regarded book "The Internet of Things" (2018, with Graham Meikle) explores how objects acquire human skills such as "seeing" or "speaking".

Soirée 4 Sat 15th Sept 18:30

Hanns Zischler



This Soirée focuses on the following question: just how productive might it be to try and interpret the world on the basis of concrete phenomena rather than abstract concepts? In the search for vanished or missing signs, Hanns Zischler pursues those impulses that attract his attention to trivial anecdotes of the daily press, in scattered diary entries and correspondence from writers or in photographs and path markings fallen into a time warp. With the attitude of an epigrapher, he makes things readable in such a way that overlays and over-determinations remain recognisable. Zischler's book "Kafka geht ins Kino" ("Kafka goes to the cinema"), highly praised by W.G. Sebald and of paramount importance in the research on Kafka, has revealed Kafka as an enthusiastic moviegoer and early cinematic art as a source of inspiration for the "Kafkaesque" – those nonnarrabulistic spatial sequences that have always fascinated architects.

Soirée 6 Fri 5th Oct 18:30

Nanni Baltzer

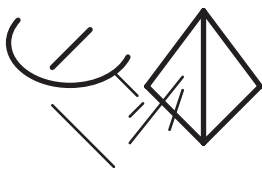


Would it be wrong to suggest that the prominence and reputation of a building – and thus the effect it exerts on architects – could be measured by the number and distribution of its photographic images? More than ever before, architectural photography determines and directs the reception and processing of built works, just as the as yet unbuilt building communicates itself more and more by means of visualisations rather than plans – ample reason therefore to address the depictions of architecture and the underlying intentions in more detail.

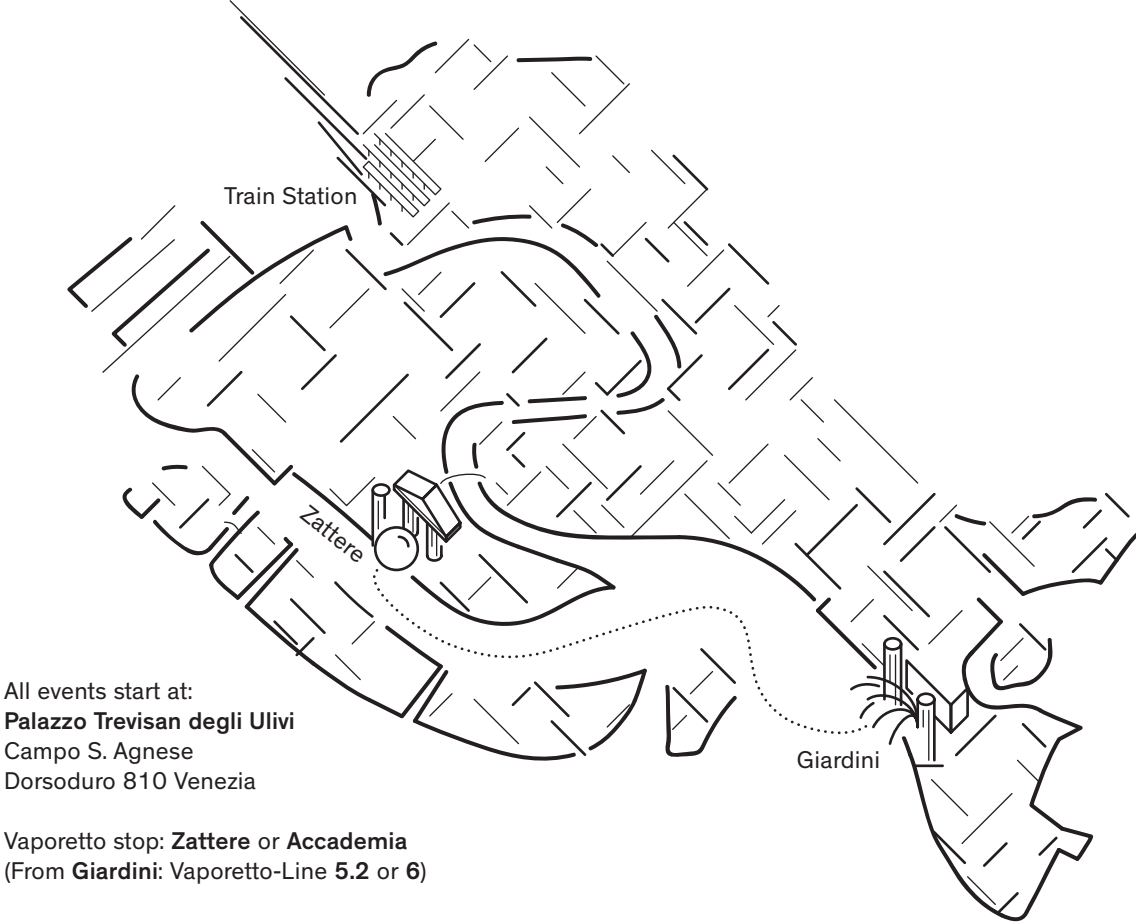
The lecturer of the sixth soirée, art historian Nanni Baltzer, is an expert in the history and theory of photography with a special focus on the interactions and interfaces between architecture and its photographic staging.

Soirée 10 Sat 24th Nov 18:00

Dorothee Elmiger
Antonio Facca
Kurt W. Forster
Ludovica Molo



The last soirée of the Salon Suisse 2018 will celebrate the freedom of art and at the same time explore its social and political impact and creative power. The writer Dorothee Elmiger will begin with a reading from her literary work, which subtly coaxes political consciousness out of poetry. The art and architecture historian Kurt W. Forster, director of the Biennale Architettura 2004, deals in his lecture with the role of feeling as a "sensibilità intellettuale" which is intrinsically human and comes into effect, in creative design, prior to any rule. Together with Ludovica Molo, architect and president of the Federation of Swiss Architects (BSA/FSA), concrete ways into the architectural and urban future will also be discussed. Antonio Facca will enrich the evening with a performance on the Campo Sant'Agnese in front of the Palazzo Trevisan.



All events start at:
Palazzo Trevisan degli Ulivi
Campo S. Agnese
Dorsoduro 810 Venezia

Vaporetto stop: **Zattere** or **Accademia**
(From **Giardini**: Vaporetto-Line 5.2 or 6)

Exploration 4 Sat 6th Oct 16:30

Laura Tinti



Under the title "Lantern for fireflies", Laura Tinti presents a combination of lecture and light installation. In her exploration, we will abandon the immutable and protected scenography of the historic city centre to get to know an interstitial area of the mainland that is full of life. A site-inspired lighted installation, a prototype of a new possible scenario, will be initiated at sunset. By using an ideal connection between Venice and Zurich, the formal reality of the red light district in Zurich-Alstetten and the spontaneous streetwalkers' patch of Via Fratelli Bandiera will be compared. Social experiments, creations of urban spaces dedicated and created in an ad hoc manner, as well as customary rules of the Italian territory will all be discussed.

The Exploration includes a boat trip to Marghera and a short walk in the area. Exploration Duration: 3 hours (in all weather conditions).

Imprint

The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia is mandated by the Swiss Confederation to promote artistic creation in Switzerland to contribute to cultural exchange at home, promote the dissemination of Swiss culture abroad and foster cultural outreach. It is responsible for Swiss contributions to the several editions of Art and Architecture biennials in Venice, Switzerland has taken part in the Biennale Arte since 1920 and in the Biennale Architettura since 1991.

Commissioner Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia
Marianne Burki, Head of Visual Arts
Sandi Paucic, Project Leader
Rachelle Giudici Legittimo, Project Coordinator
Public relations Switzerland
Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia
Marlene Mauris
Public relations International
Pickles PR / Caroline Widmer, Camille Regli

Partner

Laufen Bathrooms AG is delighted to be the partner of the Salon Suisse in the seventh year. As a Swiss brand standing for a symbiosis of global design, quality and functionality, we have been supporting the events at the Palazzo Trevisan degli Ulivi since the beginning with the intention to participate in and encourage an international dialogue in the fields of architecture, art and design.
Alberto Magrari, Senior Managing Director, Laufen Bathrooms AG

Berner Fachhochschule
Haute école spécialisée bernoise
Bern University of Applied Sciences

Stanislas Zimmermann
ETH Lausanne under Luigi Snozzi, Mircea Sîk and Martin Steinmann. After graduating in 1996, he and Valérie Jonniti set up the architecture office jonni & zimmermann and the furniture design studio jonni & zimmermann. He is currently Master of Architecture programme at the University of Applied Sciences in Berne, Fribourg and Geneva. www.zsch.ch.

Hanns Zischler
Hanns Zischler is an actor, author and theatre director. He has appeared in numerous television and cinema films, including productions by Wenders, Chabrol and Spielberg. Zischler writes own screenplays and books, including *Kafka geht ins Kino*, Berlin 2nd edition 2017, *Berlin ist zu gross für Berlin*, Berlin 2016, *Der Schmetterlingskoffer*, Berlin 2010.

Christoph P. E. Zollikofer
Prof. Dr. Christoph P. E. Zollikofer is professor for computer-assisted paleoanthropology at the Anthropological Institute of the University of Zurich. His main research interest is the evolution of hominids and the development of computational tools for the reconstruction of fragmentary fossils, the quantitative analysis of morphology, and the simulation of human dispersals in space and time.

Chiara Faggionato
Chiara Faggionato began her university studies in China at Roma Tre University. In 2016, she moved to Zurich to continue her studies with honours in Visual Arts at the Università Luigi di Venezia. In 2017, she earned a Master's degree in Photojournalism at ISFC Institute of Photography of Rome. Her work consists of a series of video projects, mainly focused on video and photography.

Kurt W. Forster
Professorships in Yale, Stanford, MIT, ETH Zurich, and the University of California at Berkeley. He is the director of the Institute for Architecture in Los Angeles (1984 – 1993). Director of the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal (1999 – 2001) and the Venice Biennale of Architecture (2004). Research areas and publications include: *Architecture and the City*, *Ornament Today*, *Bozano*, 2012, *Architektur und Philosophie*, *Grundlagen*, *Standpunkte*, *Perspektiven*, ed. by Jörg Gleiter and Ludger Schwarte, Bielefeld 2015.

Soirée 7 Sat 6th Oct 20:00

Christoph P. E. Zollikofer
Marcia Silvia Ponce de León

The demand made of architecture that it should shape the environment in a humane way could be dismissed as a commonplace if the built reality were indeed to correspond to this mandate. The reason why this is, all too often, not the case can be found, among others, in the prevailing reductionist image of mankind. A human being's essence cannot be reduced to what is measurable. From the very beginning, man has also been a fellow human being and his cultural development is decisively derived from his social behaviour. But how meaningful is empirically secured knowledge in this respect and can demands be deduced therefrom? All questions for our guests: Marcia Ponce de León and Christoph P. E. Zollikofer. Current topics and issues of anthropology are at the centre of the evening, but also included will be the question of the perception of space of the first humans and to which extent this kind of perception is also fundamental for the space experience of us nowadays.

Salonniers
Marcel Bächtiger, Tim Kammasch, Laura Tinti, Stanislas Zimmermann
Participants Salon
Nanni Baltzer, Martina Brodbeck, Sebastian Bührig, Mercedes Bunz, Corrado Chiatti, Markus Draper, Dorothee Elmiger, Antonio Facca, Chiara Faggionato, Kurt W. Forster, Jörg Gleiter, Patricia Hämmerle, Fritz Hauser, Caroline Torra-Mattenklott, Steffen Mau, Ludovica Molo, Ludger Schwarte, Marcia Silvia Ponce de León, Daniele Tucci, Hanns Zischler, Christoph P. E. Zollikofer
Project support
Jacqueline Wolf, Cleoriana Benaclocho

Publisher
Pro Helvetia
Copyright text
Marcel Bächtiger, Tim Kammasch, Laura Tinti, Stanislas Zimmermann
Copyright artwork
Atelier Pol + Ronny Hunger
Copyright publication
Pro Helvetia and the authors
Translation
Kjelsen Translations
Copy editor
Amanda Kelly, Pickles PR
Design
Atelier Pol + Ronny Hunger
Printer
Vögelli AG, Langnau i.E.
Print run / Edition
14 400

Media partner
HOCH PART
ERRE

