

HEIDIHORTENCOLLECTION

RENDEZ-VOUS

PICASSO · CHAGALL · KLEIN

6.5. – 29.10.2023

Hanuschgasse 3, 1010 Wien
www.hortencollection.com

RENDEZ-VOUS

Picasso, Chagall, Klein and Their Times

May 6, to October 29, 2023

The summer exhibition at the Heidi Horten Collection, on view from May 6 to October 29, 2023, plays on the idea of a “RENDEZ-VOUS” and presents insights into the lives and works of artists for whom France played an important role. A special focus is placed on works by Picasso, Chagall, and Klein, which feature prominently in the collection. In addition to biographical milestones in the artists’ lives and their places of work in Paris and the South of France, the exhibition also showcases, in form of an “exhibition within the exhibition,” Heidi Horten’s sophisticated lifestyle cultivated in the 1960s and 1970s around the modernist Villa Dubeau on the Côte d’Azur. With some fifty artists represented from 1890 to 1970, including works by contemporary artists, the exhibition takes visitors on a journey through a period of significant social and political change and offers encounters with pioneering artistic movements.

The first section of the exhibition features **scenes from nature and urban landscapes** and offers an **atmospheric introduction to the living and working environments of the artists on view**, ranging from the Post-Impressionist tradition of Camille Pissarro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir to contemporary approaches by Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

A second section focuses on **the significance of Montmartre and Montparnasse as centers of activity for an international community of artists** in the first half of the twentieth century: around 1900, the Montmartre neighborhood became a hub for penniless artists, including Pablo Picasso, Kees van Dongen, and Georges Braque, all of whom are represented in the Heidi Horten Collection. With Picasso’s departure, however, the neighborhood became less important, and Marc Chagall and other young artists began to congregate at the artist residence La Ruche in Montparnasse. To escape increasing discrimination and find recognition for their work, many Jewish artists fled from what was then the Russian Empire to Paris. The Heidi Horten Collection includes works by renowned artists from the so-called *École de Paris*, including Chaim Soutine, Moïse Kisling, Emmanuel Mané-Katz, and Elisabeth Ronget-Bohm. While Chagall and Mané-Katz’s work is steeped in the past, Soutine draws inspiration from Expressionism, Kisling from Neoclassicism, and Ronget-Bohm from Cubism.

The exhibition also examines **artistic production against the backdrop of the two world wars**. The wars severely impacted artistic life and creation. In particular, the German occupation of Paris that began in June 1940 marked a sudden break. As a result, many artists left the city, while Jewish artists and those deemed “degenerate,” such as Marc Chagall and Fernand Léger, escaped to the United States. In this context, Picasso’s work *Plante de Tomate*, which depicts a tomato plant in his studio window, might be seen as a sign of resistance and a foreshadowing of impending liberation.

Another section of the exhibition highlights **Pablo Picasso**, whose death will be commemorated for the fiftieth time in 2023. The Heidi Horten Collection **features eighteen paintings, prints, and ceramics** by Picasso. Biographical milestones such as the artist’s **life in Vallauris in the South of France** provide historical context. In the late nineteenth century, the Midi, especially the Côte d’Azur, attracted artists from around the world and helped rejuvenate already established art movements. Eminent artists such as Paul Cézanne and Vincent van Gogh, as well as the painters **Paul Signac, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Pierre Bonnard, Henri Matisse, Marc Chagall, and Jean Dubuffet**, also prominently represented within the collection, shifted their centers of life to the south. Picasso, who lived in Vallauris from 1946 until his death in 1973, was at his most creative and productive during these years. Taking inspiration from local pottery artisanship, he gained enormous creative power as a result. After years of isolation during World War II, life in Vallauris was characterized by joie de vivre, domestic bliss, and lively artistic and social exchanges: Picasso was surrounded by his partner and their children and enjoyed regular visits from fellow artists such as Henri Matisse, Georges Braque, Joan Miró, Marc Chagall and Fernand Léger, as well as literary figures such as Jean Cocteau, Paul Éluard, and Jacques Prévert.

In contrast to works already mentioned, those by Yves Klein on the museum’s second floor illustrate the **tendency toward the dissolution of boundaries in painting** since the 1950s. The work of the artist, who was born in Nice in 1928, is inextricably linked to the ultramarine blue hue he patented in 1960 under the name “International Klein Blue.” At the young age of nineteen, he declared the boundless blue sky over the sea off the coast of Nice to be his “first and greatest monochrome.” Klein would later revolutionize painting by introducing his monochrome concept in which pure color is the decisive element, thus breaking the confines of painting. His paintings transformed autonomous color into an indeterminate, infinite space and elevated painting into the realm of the immaterial. Klein initially applied color pigments with paint rollers, and later with natural

sponges, from which he created sponge sculptures beginning in 1957 and sponge reliefs beginning in 1958. **The Heidi Horten Collection holds his first sponge relief, *RE1 (Relief Éponge 1)*.**

The exhibition displays not only the remarkable art collection, but also provides visitors with an opportunity to **delve deeper into the life of Heidi Horten**. Exquisite furniture, handcrafts, and furnishings reveal her refined taste. After losing her husband in 1987, Heidi Horten had several residences remodeled and adapted to her needs, most notably the Villa Dubeau in Antibes. She was always mindful of her growing art collection, which required ample space in her homes. Her impeccable taste is evident in the seamless blend of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century furniture with pieces by twentieth-century designers and artists, such as a 1969 table by Italian sculptor Giacomo Manzù. This fusion of historical and contemporary elements is also reflected in her art collection, where works of classical Modernism were displayed alongside those of contemporary artists.

Finally, the exhibition highlights the modernist Villa Dubeau in relation to **the villa culture** of the time. With its direct access to the sea, the villa was the summer and vacation home of Heidi and Helmut Horten for decades and consisted of three buildings. The main house, "Villa Dubeau," designed by Cabinet J. J. & M. P. Rainaut and built in 1949, is a classic example of the region's villa style and falls stylistically between the avant-garde and Art Deco. After the death of Helmut Horten in 1987, the villa was remodeled several times to meet the wishes of Heidi Horten.

Curated by Véronique Abpurg and Rolf H. Johannsen

Exhibition design: Itai Margula

For the Heidi Horten Collection, Margula Architects designed modular and expandable museum furniture inspired by the building blocks of Friedrich Froebel (1782–1852). Based on two basic geometric modules, they created various presentation, seating, and event furniture that can be reused for individual designs for years to come.

QUOTES

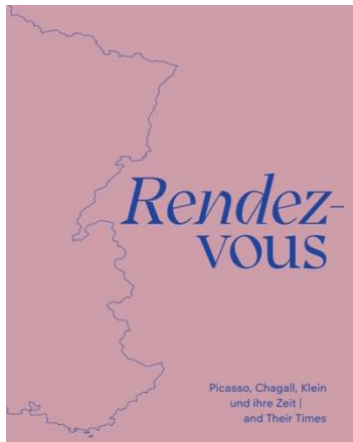
Agnes Husslein-Arco, Director

“While residing at her homes in Paris and Antibes, Heidi Horten developed a deep appreciation for the country and its art, a passion that would guide her collecting activities. Alongside other significant focal points of the collection—German Expressionism, Arte povera, Pop Art, or contemporary art—one might also speak of a ‘French collection.’ ”

Véronique Abpurg, Curator

"The exhibition highlights key moments in the lives of the artists on view and follows them to locations pivotal to their artistic development. While Paris, on the one hand, is featured as a refuge of personal and artistic freedom for an international artistic community, particularly during the early twentieth century, the Midi, the South of France, is explored as a place of longing and creativity."

Catalogue:



The exhibition is accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue (GER/EN in one edition) published by **Verlag für moderne Kunst**; price: EUR 39.00

Editors: Agnes Husslein-Arco, Véronique Abpurg, Rolf H. Johannsen for the Heidi Horten Collection

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Fact sheet RENDEZ-VOUS

The exhibition showcases over two hundred items, including ninety-five paintings, eight drawings, sixteen sculptures, twenty-two lithographs, four etchings, six ceramics, and around fifty handicraft pieces created by over fifty artists.

Artists in the exhibition:

André Bauchant
 Pierre Bonnard
 Georges Braque
 Maurice Brianchon
 Bernard Buffet
 Rembrandt Bugatti
 Blanche Camus
 Theres Cassini
 Marc Chagall
 Paul Charavel
 Christo
 Sébastien de Ganay
 Edgar Degas
 Maurice Denis
 Max Ernst
 Jean Dubuffet
 Jean Dufy
 Raoul Dufy
 Annabel Emson
 Jean Fautrier
 André Hambourg
 Moïse Kisling
 Yves Klein
 Claude Lalanne
 François-Xavier Lalanne
 Marie Laurencin
 Fernand Léger
 Serge Lifar
 Gustave Loiseau
 Bernard Lorjou
 Emmanuel Mané-Katz
 Henri Matisse
 Joan Miró
 Louis Pastour
 Pablo Picasso
 Camille Pissarro
 Serge Poliakoff
 Maurice Ravel
 Odilon Redon
 Pierre-Auguste Renoir
 Carlos Reymond
 Auguste Rodin

Élisabeth Ronget
 Michel de Saint Alban
 Niki de Saint Phalle
 Paul Signac
 Chaim Soutine
 Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec
 Maurice Utrillo
 Margot Utvar
 Louis Valtat
 Kees van Dongen
 Maurice de Vlaminck
 Édouard Vuillard

Tearoom

Buccellati
 Robert STEINLIN
 J. Kugel, Paris
 FABERGÉ
 Werkmeister August Frederik HOLLMING
 René LALIQUE
 Cartier
 Nison A. Tregor
 François-Xavier Lalanne
 Ercole BAROVIER
 Émile GALLÉ

Furniture and Decorations

Sandro PETTI
 Ercole BAROVIER
 Carlo Rampazzi
 Wedgwood
 Radiguet & Fils Opticiens, Paris
 Margot Utvar
 René LALIQUE
 Digby Scott & Benjamin Smith II
 Hofschreiner Johann Wolfgang Elias
 WEINSPACH
 Meret Oppenheim
 Tiffany
 Sergio BUSTAMANTE
 Giacomo Manzù
 Alfons Taborski

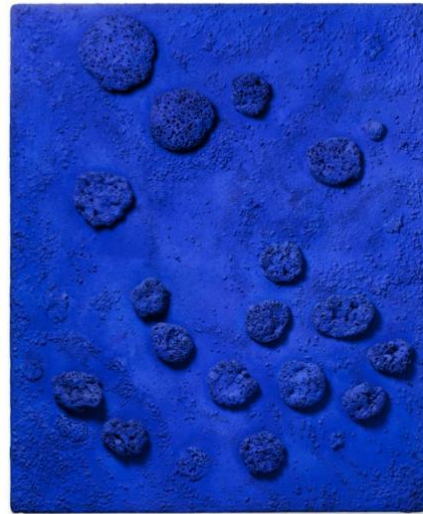
Selection of press images



Marc Chagall, *Les amoureux* (Die Liebenden | The Lovers), 1916 © Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © Heidi Horten Collection



Pablo Picasso, *Buste d'homme* (Büste eines Mannes | Bust of a Man), 1969, Succession Picasso/Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © Heidi Horten Collection



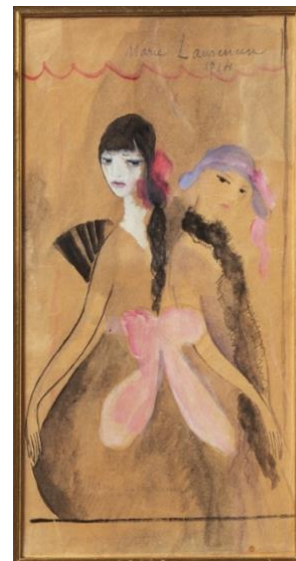
Yves Klein, *RE 1 (Relief Éponge Bleu)*, (Schwamm-Relief Blau) | RE 1 (Blue Sponge Relief), 1958, The Estate of Yves Klein/Bildrecht Wien, 2023, Foto © kunstdokumentation.com



Joan Miró, *Constellation* (Konstellation | Constellation), 1959, Successió Miró/Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © kunstdokumentation.com



Claude Lalanne, *Pomme (très grande)* (Apfel (sehr groß) | Apple (very large)), 2006, Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © Heidi Horten Collection/Lackner



Marie Laurencin, *Deux femmes à l'éventail* (Zwei Frauen mit Fächer | Two Women with a Fan), 1914, Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © Heidi Horten Collection



Fernand Léger, *Oiseaux devant les troncs d'arbres* (Vögel vor Baumstämmen | Birds in Front of the Trunks of Trees), 1952, Bildrecht, Wien 2023, Foto © Heidi Horten Collection

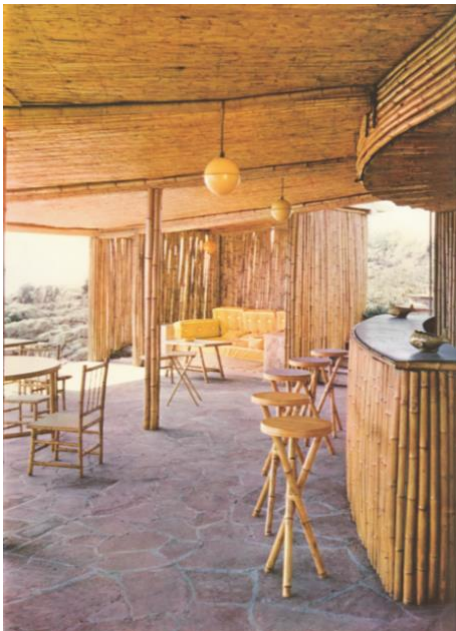
Focus: Living environment of Heidi Horten in Antibes



Villa Dubeau, 1960s, Photo: © Archive Heidi Horten Collection



Carinthia IV, 1960s, Photo: © Archive Heidi Horten Collection



Bamboo bar Villa Dubeau, 1950s, Photo: © Archive Heidi Horten Collection



Heidi Horten at the Carinthia VI, ca 1970, photo: © Archive Heidi Horten Collection

Press images and further information can be downloaded from the following link:

www.hortencollection.com/presse

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Heidi Horten Collection

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Daily, except Tuesdays, from 11 am to 7 pm

Thursdays 11 am to 9 pm

**Free admission Thursdays from 6 to 9 pm
(only with valid timeslot ticket:**

www.hortencollection.com)



Heidi Horten, the 1980s, photo © Heidi Horten Collection

Heidi Horten was born in 1941 and grew up not far from St. Charles Church in the Wieden district of Vienna. She was a passionate ice skater, studied piano, attended theater performances, and visited museums with her parents. Upon graduating from school, Heidi Horten attended a hotel management school and worked for a law firm in Vienna. She spent vacations at first with her parents and later with friends on the shores of the Wörthersee, where, in 1958, she met Helmut Horten. Eight years passed before their wedding in 1966. In the early years of their marriage, the couple lived at the luxurious Villa Horten in Düsseldorf, but after Helmut Horten retired from business, they moved to Switzerland. The couple also owned homes in Sekirn on the Wörthersee, in the Bahamas, and in Antibes in southern France, among other places.

Heidi Horten's life changed fundamentally after Helmut Horten died in 1987. Her independence growing, she converted the Sekirner Residenz into her primary abode and began collecting art. An auction at Sotheby's London in 1995 became a legendary event in the art world when, while not appearing in person, Heidi Horten purchased thirty masterpieces ranging from Expressionism to contemporary art. Her collection gained international recognition as she continued to purchase and accumulate over the following decades. To preserve the Heidi Horten Collection, she established a new museum; however, just days after it opened, she passed away on June 12, 2022.