2027 Annual Programme
Kunstmuseum St.Gallen Opens New Doors



Exhibition hall at Kunstmuseum St.Gallen, between 1894 and 1898. © Kantonsbibliothek Vadiana St.Gallen, Rietmann Photo Archive, VSRG 80637.

200 years of the Kunstverein, 150 years of the Kunstmuseum: In 2027, St. Gallen celebrates a double anniversary with an exhibition programme featuring international contemporary art alongside new discoveries from Eastern Switzerland. Martha Rosler, Ibrahim Mahama and Ahmad Al Rayyan are among the artists shaping the programme. An intervention by Tadashi Kawamata will open the museum towards the city park, while a major anniversary exhibition will explore the museum's history.

"With our anniversary programme, we demonstrate just how vibrant one of Switzerland's most historic museums can be. We combine artistic ambition with an open invitation to a broad audience," says Gianni Jetzer, Director of Kunstmuseum St.Gallen.

Martha Rosler and Ibrahim Mahama: Art and Society

In Martha Rosler, Kunstmuseum St.Gallen presents one of the defining voices of conceptual art. Since the 1960s, the American artist has explored the relationships between media, power and society through photography, video, installations and writing. Her works addressing war, gender roles, consumerism and public space raise questions that remain as relevant as ever.

Ghanaian artist Ibrahim Mahama uses monumental installations made from repurposed materials to reveal the traces of global trade, colonial history and human labour. His exploration of memory and social responsibility extends into architecture and public space. For the Lokremise, he will create a new installation exposing the colonial entanglements of cocoa and the railway.

Art from Eastern Switzerland: Ahmad Al Rayyan and *Heimspiel*

Art from Eastern Switzerland holds a prominent place in the anniversary programme. Kunstmuseum St.Gallen presents the first major solo exhibition of works by the St.Gallen-based artist Ahmad Al Rayyan. His paintings, created using screen-printing techniques, draw on experiences of forced migration, exile and bureaucracy.

Towards the end of the year, *Heimspiel* will bring together artists from Eastern Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Vorarlberg across several art institutions. This cross-border exhibition format highlights the diversity of contemporary artistic practice in the region.

Tadashi Kawamata: From the City Park into the Museum

In summer 2027, Tadashi Kawamata will create a new connection between the city park and Kunstmuseum St.Gallen. The Japanese artist is known for his site-specific, often walk-through structures that transform familiar places and open up new perspectives. For St.Gallen, he is developing a sculpture that will serve as both a new entrance and a spatial extension of the museum. It will invite visitors to rediscover the museum from the park. The inauguration will be celebrated with a major public festival in the city park.

Anniversary Exhibition: Rediscovering the Museum's History

In the second half of the year, a major anniversary exhibition will explore the history of the Kunstverein and Kunstmuseum. Drawing on the collection and archives, it will shed light on defining events, influential artistic positions and previously overlooked stories. The exhibition will also look to the future: How is the identity of a museum evolving? And what roles may museums play in society in years to come? The exhibition takes the commitment of successive generations since 1827 as its starting point for exploring these questions.

A Year of Art and Encounters

Further exhibitions featuring artists from Switzerland and abroad, together with a wide range of events, will complement the anniversary programme. Kunstmuseum St.Gallen invites visitors to see the familiar in a new light, discover the unexpected and celebrate together.

Please find the complete 2027 programme, including all exhibitions and events, in the separate pdf document.