

Spectrum Day at MBAL in Le Locle

Saturday, 7 September 2019, 10am to 4pm

MBAL – Musée des Beaux-Arts in Le Locle

Dear Members of Spectrum – Photography in Switzerland

Last year, we were fortunate to visit New York based Swiss fashion and still-life photographer Raymond Meier in Soglio and spend a full weekend together, reflecting on questions related to *Data & Matter*. This year, we decided to offer a day at MBAL in Le Locle. And for 2020, we will prepare again a weekend, altering from year to year between Spectrum Weekend and Spectrum Day.

During this day trip, a presentation of MBAL held by its director Nathalie Herschdorfer is planned in the morning, i.e. a visit of the exhibitions *Magnum Photos: Montagnes*, *Henrik Spohler: Park du Doubs*, and of *Noémie Goudal: Telluris*, followed by a discussion on Magnum's role nowadays.

In the afternoon, we are going to focus on different issues in the field of photography and museum. We are discussing in plenary institution's difficulties of financial support, their development structures related to audience's numbers, and the roles of photographs within different types of museums.

Program Overview of the Spectrum Day in Le Locle

10.00 – 12.00	Presentation of Musée des Beaux-Arts by Nathalie Herschdorfer, director of the museum. Visit of the exhibitions <i>Magnum Photos: Montagnes</i> , <i>Henrik Spohler: Park du Doubs</i> , and <i>Noémie Goudal: Telluris</i> , followed by a discussion on Magnum's role nowadays, with Melody Gyax, Magnum Photo Switzerland, and all of us
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch Break
13.00 – 14.30	Photography and Museum, discussion in the plenum
14.30 – 15.00	Coffee break
15.00 – 16.30	Photography and Museum, discussion in the plenum

The afternoon discussions focus on these topics:

- **Photography and Audience Development** (moderated by **Sascha Renner**, curator Fotostiftung Schweiz): How do we think about museum structures and the number of audiences in museums today?
- **Photography and Money** (moderated by **Joerg Bader**, director Centre de la Photographie Genève): The private sectors in Switzerland are changing dramatically which influences financial issues for museums.

- **Photography and the Archive** (moderated by **Nora Mathys**, chief conservator Musée de l'Elysée): How much of an archive has to be accessible to do an online exhibition? How to deal with vast amount of data within and for the institution that are related to archival structures?
- **New Models of Presenting Photography in Museums** (moderated by **Urs Stahel**, freelance curator): Is it still relevant today to think of the medium in a museum? Does it need a specialisation in a museum or not? Is there a new model of the relation of photography in a museum?
- **Issues in Swiss Study Programs which are on Theory and History of Photography** (moderated by **Melisa Arslan**, MA Leiden University): A consequence of Bologna 2020 is the inclusion of the study program "Theory and History of Photography" at University of Zurich into the major "Art History". What does the landscape of Swiss study programs on an academic level look like in general? What are those study programs mediating?

Each discussion will take 30 minutes, after being introduced by the moderator for 5 minutes. The discussions are going to be introduced in English. However, contributions can be done in everyone's first language.

Registration and Costs

Registration is obligatory: To participate at the day trip to Le Locle, please register until 23 August at spectrum@photography-in-switzerland.ch.

No fee for the day will be charged. The lunch is offered by MBAL.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you in Le Locle!

With my warmest summer wishes!

Urs Stahel

President Spectrum – Photography in Switzerland