

MAMCO GENEVE
09.10.2019 – 02.02.2020
PRESS KIT

ROSEMARIE
CASTORO

IRMA
BLANK

MARTIN
BARRÉ

ARNULF
RAINER

Opening October 8, 2019 (6 pm)

October 9, 2019–February 2, 2020



What is an image? And what do the images that engulf us daily want? These questions, posed over the past twenty years in the field of “visual studies,” invite us to consider images not only in terms of their existence as objects, and their meaning, but also in terms of their relationship to the society in which they are produced. We have long characterized the work of a particular artist by her/his technique, but must now accept that the *medium* is more than a work’s materials or its message: it is the ensemble of practices that have brought the work into existence, i.e. not only the canvas, stretcher and paint, but also the studio, gallery, and/or museum, the art market, and the critics.

From challenges to conventional “fine art” categorizations, to ontological shifts in the realm of the “visual,” exhibitions at MAMCO in 2019 explore this evolving concept of the image.

This fall, the museum constructs a typology of pictorial gestures and signs through four experimental practices. Thus MAMCO traces a unique path through the history of post-war painting, with retrospectives of the work of Martin Barré and Rosemarie Castoro, a major exhibition of work by Irma Blank and an ensemble of pieces by Arnulf Rainer (the Foëx donation). The replacement of brushwork by the use of spray, the extension of painting to the body and the space, the liberation of language from meaning, or the covering-over of pre-existing images are just some of the tropes on show—“gestures” that remind us that artists think above all in forms, that cannot be properly looked at and apprehended until they are understood as such.

Mirabaud’s gift: in 2019, MAMCO is free for all

Admission to the museum will be free of charge throughout 2019, thanks to a generous gift from Mirabaud, in celebration of the company’s 200th anniversary.

The gift furthers Mirabaud’s commitment to MAMCO as part of the company’s growing involvement in contemporary art. As a partner company to MAMCO since 2017, Mirabaud supports the museum’s development activities, in particular the project ‘In Course of Acquisition’. Free admission to MAMCO in 2019 reflects the museum’s determination to make contemporary art accessible to the widest possible public. We thank Mirabaud for their support in implementing this policy of outreach and sharing.



Arnulf Rainer, *Unbekannt IV (Totenmaskenserie)*, 1978
 photography on plastic paper (silver print),
 correction with walnut stain, with celadon blue
 pigment ink, washed and rubbed, with pastel
 and black wax
 60.6 x 48.6 cm (without frame)
 coll. MAMCO, donation Fonds Michel Foëx



Arnulf Rainer, *Landschaft*, 1973-1987
 dry tip on zinc, red garnet, on Zerkall Velin
 46.2 x 55.6 cm (without frame)
 ed. 7/30
 coll. MAMCO, donation Fonds Michel Foëx



Arnulf Rainer, *Tannenkreuz*, 1989
 dry tip on aluminium, printed in black green
 on Zerkall Velin
 77.9 x 68 cm (without frame)
 ed. 27/50
 coll. MAMCO, donation Fonds Michel Foëx



Arnulf Rainer, *Sans titre (Gesichter mit Goya)*, 1983
 photographie sur papier (tirage argentique),
 photograph on paper (silver print), correction with
 indian ink and blue pigment ink, washing of these
 inks, and sgraffito
 23.8 x 16.9 cm (without frame)
 coll. MAMCO, donation Fonds Michel Foëx

PARTNERS

MAMCO is overseen by FONDAMCO, which is made up of FONDATION MAMCO, the Canton, and City of Geneva.

MAMCO would like to thank all its partners, both public and private, and in particular: JTI and Fondation de Famille Sandoz, Fondation de bienfaisance du Groupe Pictet, as well as Fondation Coromandel, Fondation Lombard Odier, Fondation Valeria Rossi di Montelera, Mirabaud & Cie SA, Fondation Leenaards, Richemont, Sotheby's.

The exhibitions are supported by Fondation Gandur pour l'Art, Soros Fund Charitable Foundation, Ambassade de France, Q-International and Lenz & Staehelin.

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Monday: closed
Tuesday–Friday: 12-6pm
Saturday–Sunday: 11- 6pm

Free entry in 2019