

secession

Vereinigung bildender KünstlerInnen Wiener Secession
Friedrichstraße 12, A-1010 Wien
T. +43-1-587 53 07, F. +43-1-587 53 07-34
office@secession.at, www.secession.at

Press release

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder

November 19, 2022 – February 5, 2023

Hauptraum

Preview for the press: Friday, November 18, 2022, 11 a.m.

Opening: Friday, November 18, 2022, 7 p.m.

In his exhibition at the Secession, the Swiss artist Jean-Frédéric Schnyder shows a cross-section of his painting from almost forty years (1983–2021). In his typical manner, the 102 paintings of various formats (all: oil on canvas) are hung evenly spaced and, increasing in size from front to back and then decreasing again, form a horizontal line. The ever-changing live image of the outdoor space, which the glass door on the front wall reveals, is part of the concept.

Since the late 1960s, Schnyder has created a vast oeuvre of paintings, photographs, sculptures, objects, and installations. In his art practice he remains radically open, one result of which is a fully diverse body of work. However, looking at Schnyder's painterly work since the beginning of the 1970s, one discovers a surprising consistency and breaks in equal measure.

In each new series of works, which at the same time represents an experimental set-up, the artist concentrates meticulously on the chosen theme. His interest in the painterly process itself motivated him, for example, to explore vedute painting and to translate it into multi-part series of plein air paintings: the series of Bernese vedutes (*Berner Verduten*) consisting of 128 small-format paintings (early 1980s) or the series on Lake Thun (*Am Thunersee*) realized in the mid-1990s, which comprises 38 small-format paintings.

Schnyder orients his choice of themes and motifs on existing and common practices, plays them consistently and skillfully through – still life, nude, landscape, the three most common motifs in art history, for example – while the works remain stylistically highly heterogeneous. Instead of perpetuating the romanticized archetype of Swiss Alpine images, it rather represents images of humanly cultivated, self-made landscape – for example, when highways and roads are foregrounded. The artist works in his studio with figurative-abstract motifs and styles. For a series of flower paintings – another classic motif – he applies a pixel system that recalls an early digital aesthetic as well as color field painting of the beginning of the 20th century.

The artist has often created sculptural objects from everyday objects and leftover materials. The work *Empire State Building* from 1971, for example, consists of Lego bricks, chewing gum and a light source hidden inside. (Banana) boxes previously used as moving cartons are also recycled, especially the parts with standardised punched-out handles. The artist carefully sticks these together with brown paper tape to form new objects – the object *Durchbrochen* (2015) presented in the exhibition for example. The second object in

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the exhibition, *Käfig* (2008) – a hollow space formed from branches of a hazelnut tree – quasi represents a counter-object of the same sculptural motif here.

Schnyder has exhibited internationally since the end of the 1960s, including the legendary exhibitions *When Attitude Becomes Form* at Kunsthalle Bern (1969), documenta 5 (1972) and documenta 7 (1982); in 1993 he represented Switzerland at the Venice Biennale. In 2022, two exhibitions were dedicated to the artist in Bern, at the Kunstmuseum and the city's Kunsthalle.

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder, born 1945 in Basel, lives and works in Zug, Switzerland.

Programmed by the board of the Secession
Curated by Jeanette Pacher

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Artist's book***Jean-Frédéric Schnyder. Mappe A55***

Layout: Margret Rufener

Watercolours: Jean-Frédéric Schnyder

Texts: Margret Rufener, Max Wechsler

17 images

Format: 29.7 x 21 cm

Details: double-knot stitching, 24 pages

Secession 2022

Distribution: Revolver Publishing

EUR 26,40

The publication *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder. Mappe A55* shows 17 female nudes from the *How To Paint* (1973–75) works series created according to the instructions of the DIY painting course of the same name by Walter T. Foster. It forms a counterpart to the publication *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder. A255 Ausschnitt*, published by Kunstmuseum Bern in 1992. This, in turn, shows a range of different motifs painted in watercolour. In terms of format, page count and layout, the new publication is based on the one produced thirty years earlier.

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Current exhibitions

Hauptraum

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder

November 19, 2022 – February 5, 2023

Galerie

The Otolith Group *What the Owl Knows*

November 19, 2022 – February 5, 2023

Grafisches Kabinett

Patricia L. Boyd *Ceiling Analysis*

November 19, 2022 – February 5, 2023

Artists' books

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder. Mappe A55

Double-knot stitching, 24 pages, 17 images, EUR 26,40

Patricia L. Boyd. Ceiling Blues

Book-leaf clamp, 192 pages, 90 images, EUR 26,40

Permanent presentation

Gustav Klimt, *Beethoven Frieze*

Beethoven – Painting and Music in cooperation with
Wiener Symphoniker

Opening hours

Tuesday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Admission

Adults € 9,50 | Students, seniors € 6,00 | Free admission for children under ten

Press contact Secession

Julia Kronberger

T. +43 1 587 53 07-10, julia.kronberger@secession.at

Press images

download at <https://secession.at/presse>

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Biography Jean-Frédéric Schnyder

Born in 1945 in Basel, CH and lives and works in Zug, CH.

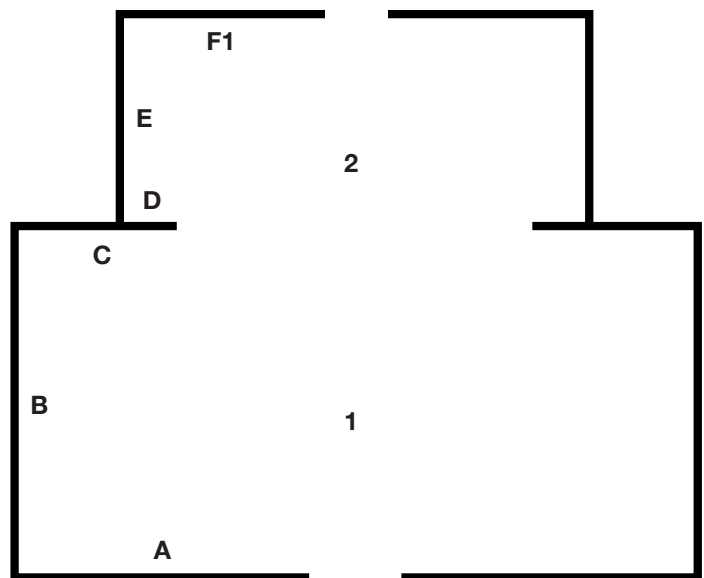
Solo exhibitions (selection)

2022 *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunstmuseum Bern; *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunsthalle Bern **2021** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunstmuseum Basel **2014** *Ferdinand Hodler, Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunsthaus Zürich **2012** *Schnyder, Jean-Frédéric*, Museum im Bellpark Kriens, CH **2011** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, The Swiss Institute/Contemporary Art, New York **2007** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunstmuseum Basel/Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel **2004** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Rheinschau Art Cologne Projects, Cologne; *Sans titre*, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris **2001** *Zugerstrasse – Baarerstrasse*, Graphische Sammlung der ETH Zürich **1998** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunsthalle Zürich **1996** *Wartsäle*, Kunstverein, Salzburg **1995** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder: Paintings*, Akron Art Museum, Akron, USA **1993** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main; *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder, Landschaft I-XXXV, 1990-91*, Portikus, Frankfurt am Main; *Wanderung*, Biennale di Venezia/Swiss Pavillon, Venice **1992** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder, Malerei 1988-91*, Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau; *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunsthaus Luzern **1987** *Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunsthalle Basel **1982** *Die Kunst von Jean-Frédéric Schnyder*, Kunstmuseum Winterthur **1979** *Apocalypso*, Kunstmuseum Bern and Kunstmuseum Luzern.

Group Exhibitions (selection)

2022 *Venedigsche Sterne Kunst und Stickerei*, Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur **2021** *Continuously Contemporary, Neue Werke aus der Emanuel Hoffmann-Stiftung*, Kunstmuseum Basel **2020** *Dance Me To The End of Love, Ein Totentanz*, Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur **2017** *Zeitgeist*, MAMCO, Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Geneva **2016** *Im Wandumdrehen zum Lullpunkt*, o.T. Raum für aktuelle Kunst, Luzern **2015** *The Great Mother/La grande Madre*, Palazzo Reale, Milan **2013** *Feu Sacré. Zum 200-jährigen Jubiläum der Bernischen Kunstgesellschaft*, Kunstmuseum Bern; *When attitudes become form: Bern 1969/Venice 2013*, Fondazione Prada. Ca' Corner della Regina, Venice; *55th International Art Exhibition*, Il Palazzo Enciclopedico, Biennale di Venezia, Venice **2012** *A Strangely Luminous Bubble, LiveInYourHead*, Institute curatorial de la Head, Geneva **2010** *Lust und Laster, die 7 Todsünden von Dürer bis Nauman*, Kunstmuseum Bern; *10.000 Lives*, Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju **2007** *The Third Mind*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris; *FernNah 2*, Kunsthaus Zug; *Du Nord, Collections du Xve siècle à nos jours*, Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne **2006** *Six Feet Under*, Kunstmuseum Bern; *Flashback*, Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel **2005** *Tracking Suburbia*, Swiss Institute, New York; *When Humour Becomes Painful*, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; *Incognito*, Santa Monica Museum of Art **2004** *Gesammelte Landschaften*, Kunsthaus Thun **2003** *How High Can You Fly*, Kunsthaus Glarus **2000** *Glückwünsche*, Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur and Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau **1998** *Freie Sicht aufs Mittelmeer*, Kunsthaus Zürich; Biennale of Sydney **1997** *Landschaft heute*, Tal Museum, Engelberg, CH; *Alpenblick*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna; *Belladonna*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London **1993** *Der zerbrochene Spiegel*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna and Deichtorhallen, Hamburg **1987** *Die Gleichzeitigkeit des Anderen: Materialien zu einer Ausstellung*, Kunstmuseum Bern **1985** *Cross-Currents in Swiss Art: Martin Disler, Miriam Cahn, Jean-Frédéric Schnyder, Markus Raetz, Peter Fischli/David Weiss*, Serpentine Gallery, London **1982** *Documenta 7*, Kassel **1981** *Schweizer Kunst '70-'80*, Kunstmuseum Luzern and Galleria Comunale d'Arte Moderna, Bologna **1977** *Materialien*, Kunsthalle Bern **1973** *Prospect 73*, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf **1972** *Documenta 5*, Kassel **1971** *Biennale de Paris*, Paris **1969** *22 jonge Zwitsers*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; *When Attitudes Become Form (Works, Concepts, Processes, Situations, Information)*, Kunsthalle Bern **1968** *12 Environments*, Kunsthalle Bern.

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder



LEFT

Wall A from left to right

all oil on canvas
21 × 30 cm or 30 × 21 cm

- 1 *Pfeife auf Palette*, 1983
- 2 *s'il vous plaît!*, 1997
- 3 *ROT*, 1997
- 4 *Araberstute*, 2021
- 5 *Kreuz (grün)*, 1999–2020
- 6 *Abend am Zugersee*, 1996
- 7 *Stilleben mit Flaschen*, 2021
- 8 *Bildnis*, 1997
- 9 *Stilleben*, 1997
- 10 *Mittelland*, 1990
- 11 *ohne Titel*, 1988
- 12 *Kreuz (blau)*, 1999–2020
- 13 *Palette*, 1984
- 14 *Magnolien*, 1985
- 15 *Treppe*, 1986
- 16 *Kunst*, 1997
- 17 *Champvent*, 1990
- 18 *Stifter Briefe*, 2021

Wall B from left to right

all oil on canvas
30 × 42 cm or 42 × 30 cm

- 1 *Palette*, 2021
- 2 *Wenn man ...*, 2021
- 3 *ICH*, 2021
- 4 *rot / blau*, 1986
- 5 *Torso*, 1988
- 6 *Rot / Grün*, 2021
- 7 *der betende Samuel*, 1998
- 8 *Büsi*, 2021
- 9 *Stilleben mit Flasche*, 2021
- 10 *Tüechli*, 2021
- 11 *die Kartoffeleesser*, 2021
- 12 *Blumen*, 1993
- 13 *Blume*, 1993
- 14 *Träsch*, 2021
- 15 *4 Kugeln*, 1993
- 16 *Walbusch*, 2020
- 17 *Berühren Verboten*, 2020
- 18 *Kreuz*, 1993

Wall C from left to right

all oil on canvas
40 × 40 cm – 48 × 64 cm

- 1 *Stilleben mit TV*, 1984
- 2 *Stilleben mit modernem Bild*, 2021
- 3 *Grau*, 1983
- 4 *Ueberarbeitet*, 1984
- 5 *vis-à-vis*, 1984
- 6 *ET*, 1984

Wall D

Zucchetti, 1987
oil on canvas, 60 × 80 cm

Wall E from left to right

all oil on canvas
80 × 60 cm – 80 × 120 cm

- 1 *Nydeggbrücke bei Nacht*, 1983
- 2 *Kreuzung Ritter- Lindenstrasse*, 1983
- 3 *Steinbruch*, 1983
- 4 *Weiss*, 1984
- 5 *Zuber*, 1984

Wall F1 from left to right

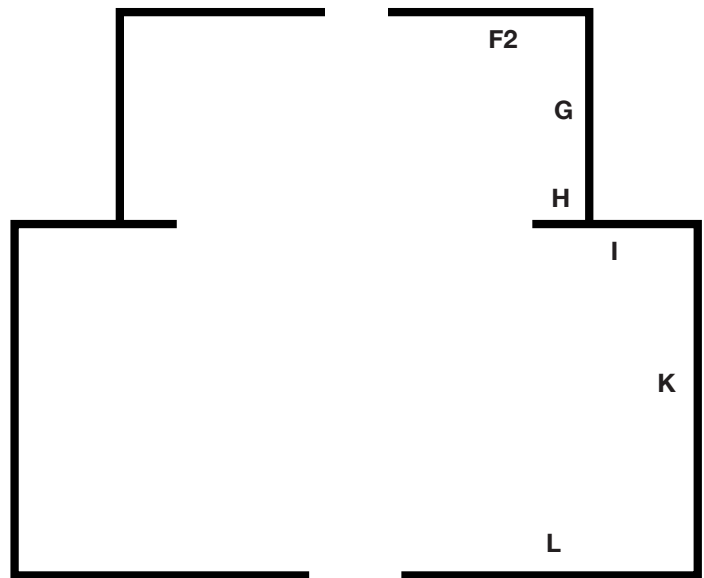
all oil on canvas

- 1 *Am Fenster*, 1986
120 × 100 cm
- 2 *Die Erschaffung des Menschen*, 1986
160 × 120 cm
- 3 *denken*, 1987, 150 × 200 cm
Sammlung Ringier, Schweiz

CENTRE

- 1 *Käfig*, 2008
wood, iron, 120 × 120 × 120 cm
- 2 *Durchbrochen*, 2015
cardboard, 107,5 × 54 × 54 cm

Jean-Frédéric Schnyder



RIGHT

Wall L from right to left

all oil on canvas
21 × 30 cm or 30 × 21 cm

- 1 *Wenn Du glaubst ...*, 2021
- 2 *Kreuz (bunt)*, 1999–2020
- 3 *KKG X*, 1990
- 4 *Ausblick*, 2021
- 5 *Mensch*, 1997
- 6 *Sonntag*, 2021
- 7 *Kreuz (Vase)*, 1999–2020
- 8 *Punkte*, 1997
- 9 *Blätz*, 2021
- 10 *die Kartoffelesser*, 2021
- 11 *L'Église de Gréville nach Jean François Millet*, 2021
- 12 *Val Laver*, 1984
- 13 *am Fenster*, 2021
- 14 *Stürmische Winde aus Nordwest*, 1990
- 15 *Kiesgrube Rubigen*, 1984
- 16 *Parco Tassino*, 1990
- 17 *Amphore*, 1997
- 18 *mein Tisch*, 1986

Wall K from right to left

all oil on canvas
30 × 42 cm or 42 × 30 cm

- 1 *Herz*, 1993
- 2 *Blume, Karo*, 1998
- 3 *Blumenstilleben*, 2021
- 4 *Ideallandschaft*, 2021
- 5 *3 Blumen*, 1995–98
- 6 *Dr. Steiner, Pfad der Erkenntnis*, 2020
- 7 *Moretti*, 2020
- 8 *Engelchen*, 2021
- 9 *Tre Marie*, 2020
- 10 *Der Rauch*, 2021
- 11 *Sack*, 2020
- 12 *Sonne + Blume*, 1984
- 13 *2 1/2 Häuser*, 1989
- 14 *die Aeschigrippe*, 1988
- 15 *Oster- Mal- und Bastelspass*, 2021
- 16 *Welt / Gedicht*, 2021
- 17 *Sunset, Karo*, 1993
- 18 *0.0*, 2020

Wall I from right to left

all oil on canvas
42 × 42 cm – 65 × 48 cm

- 1 *Blumenstilleben*, 2021
- 2 *Geflecht*, 2021
- 3 *Kaktus*, 1985
- 4 *Muster*, 1984
- 5 *Landschaft*, 1984
- 6 *Stilleben*, 1983

Wall H

Bischofsmützen, 1987
oil on canvas, 60 × 80 cm

Wall G from right to left

all oil on canvas
80 × 60 cm – 80 × 120 cm

- 1 *Rote Blume*, 1985
- 2 *Portrait*, 1985
- 3 *Fenster*, 1985
- 4 *Stilleben mit Orange und Zitronen*, 1985
- 5 *Weichspüler*, 1984

Wall F2 from right to left

all oil on canvas

- 1 *Portrait mit Schneebällen*, 1984
120 × 80 cm
- 2 *neuer Titel?*, 1985
120 × 160 cm
- 3 *Der Niesen am 21. Dezember*, 1987
160 × 200 cm
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