

Gardiens du silence

Guardians of silence

From 21 June to 29 October 2023

Gardiens du silence
Musée Jenisch Vevey

21.06 – 29.10.23



Visual poster

Marc De Bernardis (*1966)

Résilience (Resilience), 2023

Charcoal on Arches paper, 770 x 570 mm

Artist's collection

Photo credit: © Marc De Bernardis, photographer : Julien Gremaud

T +41 21 925 35 20

Avenue de la Gare 2
CH-1800 Vevey

museejenisch.ch
info@museejenisch.ch





“I wonder if the primary relationship with trees is not primarily aesthetic, even before being scientific. When you meet a beautiful tree, it is simply extraordinary.”

Francis Hallé, botanist

Contents

Press release	1
Exhibition	2
From A to Z: the artists exhibited	8
Partners and contacts	9



Press release

The exhibition takes a sensitive look at trees, these indispensable representatives of the plant world. Bringing together artworks from the collections of the Musée Jenisch Vevey and enriched by external loans, the exhibition has one aim: to exalt the beauty of the tree, whether it is drawn, engraved, painted, sculpted or photographed. Works from the 16th to the 21st century allow visitors to stroll through the forests, among the trunks and under the foliage. The Musée Jenisch Vevey pays tribute to these guardians of humanity by encouraging a kind of poetic wandering, adopting the viewpoint of the artists who saw them as a mirror, a refuge, a source of unlimited material and metaphorical inspiration.

Spanning more than five centuries of creation, the exhibition brings to life the multiple voices of a community of artists and poets from French-speaking Switzerland who have developed a powerful and intimate bond with trees, highlighting all their magnificence. The exhibition unfolds three narrative threads:

that of their aesthetics – from naturalist contemplation to more abstract transposition;

that of their fragility – artistic testimony to their ongoing devastation;

the poetic one of the voices chosen to accompany them.

Thus, these great protagonists of the living world will amaze young and old alike while opening up avenues for reflection on their role and their future.

In collaboration with Galerie C, Neuchâtel
Chaque nuit, j'entre dans les creux des troncs et j'écoute
Every night, I enter the hollows of the trunks and I listen
15 September to 4 November 2023

Thursday, 25 June at 10.30 a.m

Press conference

Tuesday, 20 June from 6 p.m. onwards

Vernissage



Exhibition

The exhibition, which will take place on the first floor of the museum, features six sections:

Majestueux gardiens de notre humanité

Majestic guardians of our humanity

16th-21st centuries

From Dürer's *Adam and Eve* in 1504 to the present day, the first section of the exhibition covers more than five centuries of creation by showing painted, drawn and engraved trees by the greatest names in the history of art: Rembrandt, Daubigny, Corot, Cézanne, Giacometti rub shoulders with Alexandre Hollan and Farhad Ostovani.



Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, also known as Rembrandt (1606 – 1669)
Paysage aux trois arbres (The Three Trees), 1643

Etching, drypoint and burin on laid paper, 209.5 x 281 mm

Musée Jenisch Vevey – Cabinet cantonal des estampes, Professor Pierre Decker's print collection

Photo credit: © Musée Jenisch Vevey – Cabinet cantonal des estampes, Professor Pierre Decker's print collection, photographer : Antonio Maniscalco



L'arbre miroir

The tree as a mirror

From the anthropomorphic representations of Valérie Favre to the abundant mythological scenes in the engravings of Hendrick Goltzius or Gustave Doré, the artists give pride of place to the tree-man. This projection of the human figure in the trees takes different ways: tree of life by Cécile Reims or Pierre Alechinsky, or more striking representations by Barthélémy Toguo or Miriam Cahn.



Barthélémy Toguo (*1967)

Purification XXIX, 2010

Watercolour on paper mounted on canvas, 950 x 855 mm

Courtesy of Galerie Lelong & Co. and Bandjoun Station

Photo credit: © Barthélémy Toguo / Courtesy Galerie Lelong & Co. et Bandjoun Station

© Barthélémy Toguo / 2023, ProLitteris, Zurich / ADAGP, Paris



**La forêt
le seuil et l'infini**

***The forest
the threshold and the infinite***

A section that plunges into the heart of the forest as much by the sounds as by the surrounding works: whereas the artist Stéphane Erouane Dumas shows us the edge, Claude Cortinovic, Marc De Bernardis and Andrea Gabutti immerse us in its depths. Whether dense or sparse, the forest-refuge, grandiose and comforting, becomes a maze, a space that seems endless and from which one can no longer leave.

“You don't have to be in the woods for long to get the somewhat anxious feeling that you're going ever deeper into a world without limits. Soon, if you don't know where you're going, you no longer know where you are.”

Gaston Bachelard, *La Poétique de l'espace* (The Poetics of Space) [1957], PUF, 1961, p. 215



Andrea Gabutti (*1961)
Sans titre (Untitled), 2018
Indian ink on canvas, 160,5 x 123 cm
Musée Jenisch Vevey
Photo credit: © Musée Jenisch Vevey, photographer : Julien Gremaud

**De tout bois
l'arbre et sa matérialité**

***Of all wood
the tree and its materiality***

While wood fascinates by its multiple forms and textures that artists such as Jean-Antoine Linck, Giuseppe Penone and Vincent Kohler like to represent, it is also used as the very material of the work. Sculpted by Denis Roueche or engraved by Pierre Aubert, it becomes the medium of pencil drawings by Nina Haab. And in the works of Charles de Montaigne and Ariane Epars, its imprint is at the heart of the artistic process.



Giuseppe Penone (*1947)

La sua corteccia analizzata, palpata, seguita, tastata, punto per punto fino all'altezza di novecentosettanta centimetric (Its bark analysed, palpated, followed, felt, point by point to the height of nine hundred and seventy centimetres), 1969

Graphite pencil on paper, 99 x 252 cm

Frac Picardie collection

Photo credit: © Collection Frac Picardie, photographer : André Morin

© Giuseppe Penone / 2023, ProLitteris, Zurich / ADAGP, Paris

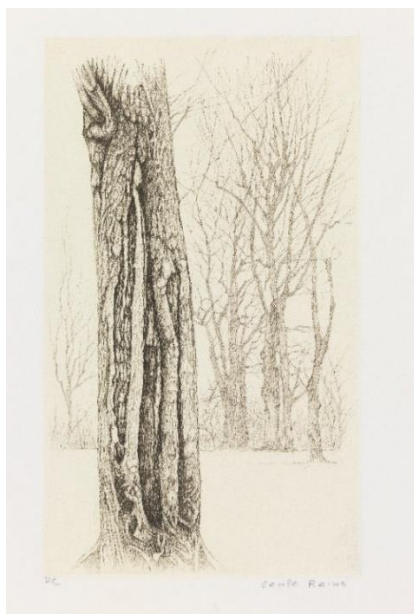




Et pourtant si fragiles

And yet so fragile

The image we have of trees is related to grandeur, majesty, longevity. The existence of trees, as immense as they are, can be cut short when human hands cut them down and uproot them, as depicted by Victor Surbek, Uwe Wittwer and Guy Oberson. Philippe Ségéral, Christine Boillat and Catherine Gfeller show them consumed by fires that have become increasingly frequent and destructive in recent decades. Trees are also wounded, as expressed by Cécile Reims with her series *Plaies d'arbres* (Tree Wounds), or Niklaus Manuel Güdel with an installation showing trees hit by bullets during the First World War in the Vosges forest.



Cécile Reims (1927 - 2020)

Plaies d'arbres (Tree Wounds), 2008

Burin and drypoint on Japan paper applied on vellum paper, 369 x 243 mm

Jenisch Museum Vevey – Cantonal Stamp Museum, collection of the City of Vevey

Photo credit: © Musée Jenisch Vevey – Cabinet cantonal des estampes, collection de la

Ville de Vevey, photographers : Barbara Piovan and Mauro Magliani

© Cécile Reims / 2023, ProLitteris, Zurich / ADAGP, Paris

Dans les arbres
des journées entières

*In the trees
for days on end*

The last section of the exhibition features a major installation by artist Delphine Gigoux-Martin. Among the branches perch birds in ceramic and video. Also depicted are Célia Muller, fruit pickers by Ferdinand Hodler and Henry Bischoff, as well as the biblical character Zacchaeus by Michael Rampa.



Michael Rampa (*1977)

Zacchaeus, 2023

Pencil and Watercolour on Fabriano paper, 1403 x 1403 mm

Artist's collection

Photo credit: © Michael Rampa, photographer: Julien Gremaud





From A to Z: the artists exhibited

- Pierre Alechinsky (*1927)
 Pierre Aubert (1910 – 1987)
 Marc Aymon (*1982)
 Henry Bischoff (1882 – 1951)
 Christine Boillat (*1978)
 Félix Bracquemond (1833 – 1914)
 Benjamin Brecknell Turner (1815 – 1894)
 Rodolphe Bresdin (1822 – 1885)
 Miriam Cahn (*1949)
 Alexandre Calame (1810 – 1864)
 Jacques Callot (1592 – 1635)
 Paul Cézanne (1839 – 1906)
 Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot (1796 – 1875)
 Claude Cortinovic (*1967)
 Charles-François Daubigny (1817 – 1878)
 Marc De Bernardis (*1966)
 Stefano della Bella (1610 – 1664)
 Astrid de La Forest (*1962)
 Patrick Demarchelier (1943 – 2022)
 Charles de Montaigne (*1946)
 Gustave Doré (1832 – 1883)
 Stéphane Erouane Dumas (*1958)
 Balthasar Anton Dunker (1746 – 1807)
 Albrecht Dürer (1471 – 1528)
 Ariane Epars (*1959)
 Nicolas Faure (*1949)
 Valérie Favre (*1959)
 Alexis Forel (1852 – 1922)
 Martine Franck (1938 – 2012)
 Andrea Gabutti (*1961)
 Matthieu Gafsou (*1981)
 Claude Gellée, dit le Lorrain (1604 – 1682)
 Catherine Gfeller (*1966)
 Alberto Giacometti (1901 – 1966)
 Delphine Gigoux-Martin (*1972)
 Hendrick Goltzius (1558 – 1617)
 Jon Goodman (*1953)
 Michel Grillet (*1956)
 Niklaus Manuel Güdel (*1988)
 Nina Haab (*1985)
 Sir Francis Seymour Haden (1818 – 1910)
 Ferdinand Hodler (1853 – 1918)
 Alexandre Hollan (*1933)
 Jean Huber, dit Huber-Voltaire (1721 – 1786)
 Oscar Huguenin (1842 – 1903)
 Jérémie Kisling (*1976)
 Vincent Kohler (*1977)
 Stéphan Landry (1960 – 2009)
 Jean-Antoine Linck (1766 – 1843)
 Genêt Mayor (1976)
 Barthélemy Menn (1815 – 1893)
 Margaretta K. Mitchell (*1935)
 Célia Muller (*1992)
 Nicolas Muller (*1983)
 Guy Oberson (*1960)
 Farhad Ostovani (*1950)
 Giuseppe Penone (*1947)
 Edmond Quinche (*1942)
 Michael Rampa (*1977)
 Cécile Reims (1927 – 2020)
 Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, dit Rembrandt (1606 – 1669)
 Denis Roueche (*1987)
 Peter Ruedi (1924 – 1988)
 Jan Ruischer (1625 – 1675)
 Maurice Schobinger (*1960)
 Philippe Ségéral (*1954)
 Paul Signac (1863 – 1935)
 Ferdinand Springer (1907 – 1998)
 Victor Surbek (1885 – 1975)
 Pierre Tal Coat (1905 – 1985)
 Barthélémy Toguo (*1967)
 Maximilien Urfer (*1980)
 Félix Vallotton (1865 – 1925)
 Louis Valtat (1869 – 1952)
 Pieter van Laer (1599 – vers 1642)
 Anthonie Waterloo (1609 – 1690)
 Uwe Wittwer (*1954)
 Robert Zünd (1827 – 1909)



Partners

The Musée Jenisch Vevey sincerely thanks its partners for their valuable support:



ERNST GÖHNER
STIFTUNG

FONDATION DU DOMAINE
DE VILLETTE



FONDATION
PHILANTHROPIQUE
FAMILLE SANDOZ



FONDATION CASINO
BARRIÈRE
MONTREUX



Autres partenaires



PAYOT
LIBRAIRE



Contacts

Exhibition

Curatorship

Nathalie Chaix
Director
nchaix@museejenisch.ch
T +41 21 925 35 15 ou 079 754 49 71

Musée Jenisch Vevey

Head of press and communication

Oriane Couturier
ocouturier@museejenisch.ch
T +41 21 925 35 18

Reception

info@museejenisch.ch
T +41 21 925 35 20